

FEB

The North Florida DX Association

Pile Up

The NFDXA Newsletter



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<http://nfdxa.com/>

Sunspot Roller Coaster; Will ARRL DX CW Be Wide Open or Repeat of Quieter Times on the High Bands?

By [Jamie Dupree NS3T](#) radio-sport.net



How times have changed. Just two years ago, the dominant narrative in the ham radio contest community was the terrible condition of the high bands in HF contests and the lack of sunspots. Now after a big surge in sunspots, some wonder if we're headed back down.

If the sun can perk back up, the ARRL DX CW Contest may bring a focus again on new records, as we saw last year.

In 2011, sunspot numbers were just coming at us, up from a lengthy hiatus as Valery Komarov RD3A set a new DX record from PJ4A of almost 7.5 million points.

New Single Operator High Power records were also set for North America - ZF2AM/K6AM at 6.59 million points - and for million. Europe as OK1RF ran CS2C to 4.09 million. In the US and Canada, there were also some new entries made in the record book. **(More on page 9)**

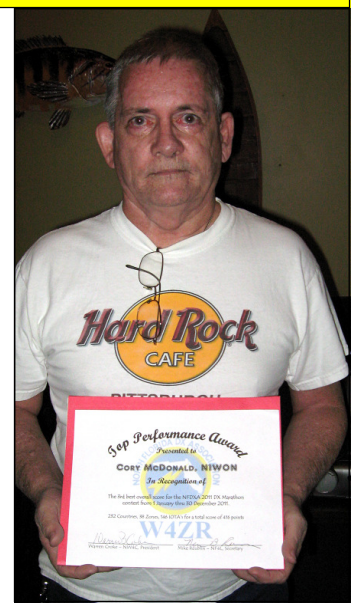
N4NN, NIWON Receive Certificates



January was certificate month for two NFDXA members.

On the left, Dale, N4NN received recognition for working all 40 CQ Zones on 160 meters. Only 29 hams in the US and 182 worldwide have worked them all on 160 since the award's inception prior to World War 2.

Cory, NIWON, was presented a certificate from NFDXA for scoring 316 points in last years Club CQ Marathon DX Contest.



NOTICE
There will be no 'official' NFDXA Meeting in February. The next meeting will be 5 pm Saturday, March 17 at The Athens Café, 6271 St Augustine Road.





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 Roster—January 2012 Meeting Attendance

Name	Call	Attending	Name	Call	Attending
Steve Brown	AB4UF	N	Dale Conner	N4NN	Y
John Hale	AC4ET	N	Billy Williams	N4UF	N
Larry Bostic	K3LB	Y	Mike Reublin	NF4L	Y
Larry Junstrom	K4EB	N	Dave Mains	NO4J	N
Dick Hicks	K4UTE	Y	Jim Iori	NU4Y	N
John Silberman	KB4CRT	Y	Warren Croke	NW4C	Y
Jim Hughes	KC4FWS	Y	Pres Graham	W4FDA	N
Bill Walker	KX4WW	N	Gary Liljegren	W4GAL	N
Cory McDonald	NIWON	Y	Bob Lightner	W4Gj	N
Mike Parnin	N4EPD	Y	Steve Barber	WA4B	Y
Ron Tivey	N4GFO	N	David Price	WA4ET	N
Joe Barnes	N4JBK	Y	Robert Frey	WA6EZV	Y
Ron Blake	N4KE	N	Dick Knox	WR4K	N
				Total Attending	12

January 2012 Meeting Minutes on Page 2

... Dots and Dashes ...

It was good to see folks at the Orlando Hamfest that haven't been able to make it to recent meetings. Many thanks to Jim (KC4FWS) for his splendid southern hospitality. Hanging out at his "mobile QTH" in the RV area of the Orlando Hamfest proved to be a good place to meet interesting hams who just happen to be DX zealots like us. Lots of "eyeball DX" as well. One DXer actually traveled all the way from Wisconsin to have a Diet Coke at Jim's RV and visit with his NFDXA buddies.

I've been hearing lots of talk so far this year that the bands are full of DX and most folks just don't have time to work it all. That has been the case for me as well. January was a particularly productive month due to high Sun Spot Numbers and some three day weekends. February hasn't been quite as good; less time and fewer sunspots. Oh well, the year has



Larry, K3LB



just begun and I still have time to catch Richard in the contest (dream on). The upcoming contest calendar could offer a chance to snag a semi-rare one (or two).

Hope to see everyone at the March meeting, tentatively scheduled for **The Athens Cafe** (March 17th). We all know that very few things compare with working a good contest or rare DX. But, getting together with fellow DXers over a beer and some tasty food is certainly on my top ten list. ... **Larry, K3LB**



Minutes of the NFDXA Meeting Saturday, January. 21, 2012

This meeting was held at the St. Johns Seafood and Steak Restaurant , Lane Ave., Jacksonville

The meeting was called to order by newly elected 2012 president **Larry, K3LB** at 6:09 pm.

Larry introduced himself and spoke about the club contest (a 6 month trial) 2012.

Treasurer Jim KC4FWS reported a balance of: \$1299.16

Old business - Warren presented awards for the 2011 club contest to **Richard, K4UTE** (score of 549) and **Cory, NIWON** (score of 416). **Larry, K4EB** (score of 497) was absent.

New business - **Jim, KC4FWS** will have his motor home at Orlando Hamcation; He invited everyone to stop by for sodas and fellowship between 12-1. **BYOF** (Bring your own food). There may be a formal meeting.

Program - **Warren** presented video of the 2000 XZ0A Myanmar DxPedition by the C Arizona DX Assn.

Warren handed out Most Wanted list. **Cory, NIWON** has applied for the DXCC Honor Roll.

Next meeting planner: (March 2012) **Steve, WA4B**.

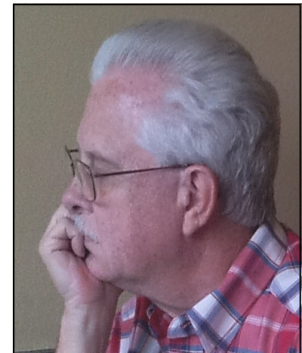
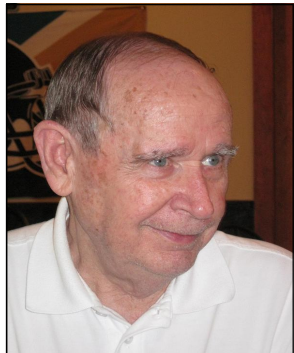
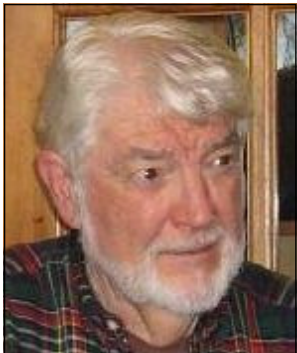
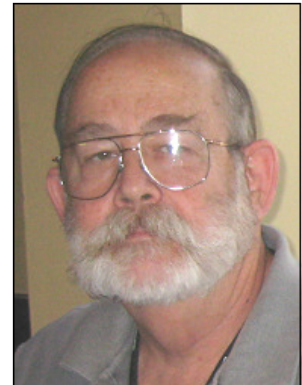
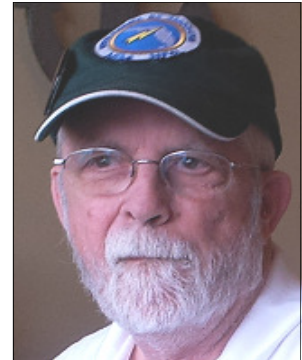
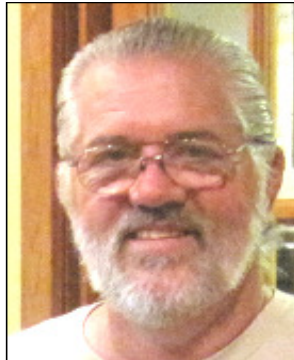
Guests: **John, KB4CRT** introduced his guest from the Tampa ARC, **Jack Hartley, K4WSV**.

The January meeting was adjourned at: 7:21 pm.

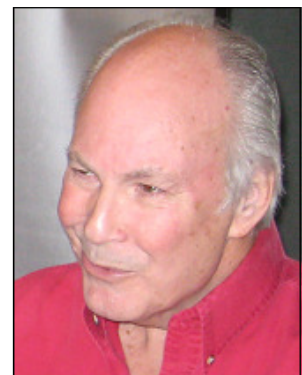
Respectfully submitted, **Mike, NF4L, Secretary**.



Faces in the January 2012 Meeting Crowd



The January 2012 NFDXA 'Rogues' Gallery
Top Row, L-R: Joe, N4JBK; Dale, N4NN; Cory, NIWON and Mike, NF4L
Middle Row, L-R: Larry, K3LB; Bob, WA6EZV; Steve, WA4B and John, KB4CRT
Bottom Row, L-R: Warren, NW4C; Richard, K4UTE; Jim, KC4FWS and Mike, N4EPD.
Bottom Right: Jack Hartley, K4WSV from the Tampa ARC;
 Guest of John, KB4CRT



Editor's Note: Photos of NF4L, WA4B, K4UTE, KC4FWS and N4EPD were taken at earlier NFDXA meetings.
 Photos above courtesy of KB4CRT and NW4C.

Here and There with the NFDXA Membership

Down—Momentarily, but definitely not out

As it turns out the reason we haven't been seeing or hearing much of **WA4B** lately is he was in the hospital! It seems **Steve** had a wound on his foot which started to ulcerate and then became seriously infected. His physician recommended he immediately go to the hospital. There it took close to a week before a regimen of anti-biotics took hold and brought the infection under control. **Steve's** feeling much better and now out and about again—with the help of a motorized scooter! Just keep a sharp eye open for **Steve** as he scoots around his Southside neighborhood where most likely no scooter has ever gone before . . .



Steve WA4B



Jim NU4Y

Interesting Ham radio-related Videos on Youtube

NU4Y writes that he "stumbled" across some videos on Youtube that he found to be informative and interesting. Go to www.youtube.com and search for Nott Ltd. What **NU4Y** came up with was a list of videos produced by Ron Nott on an assortment of subjects including some of interest to Hams. In addition to making video productions, Nott modestly proclaims himself to be a "Lightning Sage". You have to judge that one for yourself. Among his posted videos which NFDXA members might find interesting are several dealing with Lightning Protection, another one comparing the relative advantages/disadvantages of the Folded Unipole Antenna and another video discourse on Elevated radials.

It's a bird... It's a plane... No, it's a TH-11 coming down



Gary W4GAL and Bob W4GJ



Rich KB4HF doing his thing



TH-11 being (very) carefully lowered

Two NFDXA members joined forces on a recent February Sunday to help a Gainesville area Ham remove and lower a TH-11 beam and a Force 12 40-meter dipole from their perch atop a 70 foot tower. **Gary, W4GAL**, **Bob, W4GJ** and **Warren, NW4C** acted as ground crew for **Rich, KB4HF**, a former NFDXAer, who filled the role of Tower Monkey for this particular project. The 11-element, 5-band beam weighs in at just under 90 pounds. Weight was not as much of a problem as its size—in a word—huge! The phrase 'aluminum overcast' was mentioned on a number of occasions during the 4-hour process which was complicated by the close proximity of numerous trees. The big *Super Thunderbird* belongs to **N4MSY, Harold Blaylack** who is expecting to move to another location in the near future.

—NW4C Photos

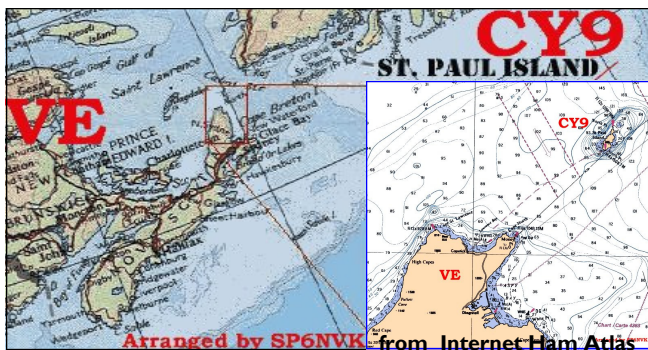
MV Island to be deleted from DXCC List

The day of deletion has now been confirmed: Finnish and Russian ambassadors met January 17th and exchanged documents signed by the presidents of both countries. The new agreement on the lease of Saimaa Channel will be in force from February 17, 2012. The new agreement does *not* include Maljy Vysotskij (RIMV ...) and the island is expected to be deleted from the DXCC-list the day before, February 16th 2012. This is, of course, subject to the decision of ARRL DXCC Committee. — Jari, OH2BU

Pictures from the 2012 Orlando Hamcation — **Top Row L-R:** Saturday's crowd; Ben, K4EL; Bob, WA6EZV leads Fox Hunting Forum. **Upper Mid-row:** Jim, KC4FWS relaxing; Busy ARRL booth. **Lower Mid-row:** John, KB4CRT; Ron, N4KE contemplates. **Bottom row:** Larry, K3LB; Bob, W4GJ; Jim's motor home.



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



If all goes well, rocky, uninhabited **CY9 St Paul Island** in the Gulf of St. Lawrence between Nova Scotia and Newfoundland will be activated by a late July-early August DXpedition. St Paul was last activated in 2005 and now stands at No. 47 on *The DX Magazine's* most wanted DXCC entity list. Like many uninhabited far-northern islands St Paul is a nature preserve and requires special permission from the Canadian government before going ashore. A CY9 website is under construction and expected to be up shortly. QSL manager for the operation will be M0URX.

As of January 23 the Norwegian government declared most of Jan Mayen a Nature Reserve and banned landings and camping on most of the island. This means that tour operators no longer visit since the main landing area is part of the Reserve. The island has no natural harbors; the only remaining landing and camp sites that could be used by a DXpedition are in the extreme southern part of the island which is very exposed to the area's frequent bad weather. **Jan Mayen, JX**, is a 34-mile long volcanic island in the Arctic Ocean and is considered an integral part of the Kingdom of Norway. The partially glaciated island is inhabited only by Norwegian military communications and meteorological personnel. It's believed that significant oil deposits are located under the ocean floor in the vicinity of Jan Mayen.



(Map on right from Internet Ham Atlas)



Switching hemispheres but staying in the cold zone, in case you haven't already heard, the 2013 trip to **Heard Island (VK0/M)** has been put on hold until further notice by organizer/planners **VK3FY, Chris**, and **VK6IR, Steve**. The decision was due in part to the current global financial situation, plus the extremely high financial cost, considering the estimated USD \$500,000 cost for such an expedition, according to Chris. Both say they are still interested in a VK0H DXpedition



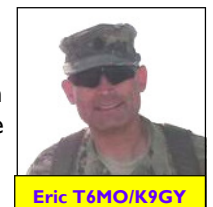
Chris VK3FY

possibility. However, at this time the financial risks are far too great. — *The Daily DX 13 Jan 12*



(PileUp Editor's note: Part of the money-raising problem could be linked to another would-be DXpedition headed by VK3FY to the Spratly Islands to take place this year. DX0DX was cancelled after multiple delays reportedly because of transportation problems and finally because of the escalating "situation in the South China Seas." Several advance donors have posted complaints on eHam and other sites that despite numerous reassurances, their donations have not been returned.)

T6MO, Eric in **Afghanistan**, plans to be back stateside for the ARRL DX CW event this weekend. Eric says, "I will be on for sporadic periods mostly around sunrise and sunset as that seems to be the most productive to the USA." Eric says he will miss the first sunrise, at 0230Z on day one of the operating event because he'll be flying back from Baghram. But look for him day one of the ARRL DX CW, local sunset at 1326Z, and day two at local sunrise, 0230Z and sunset, 1326Z, most likely on 40M and 20M. Eric notes his radio only puts out 40 watts on 15M and he's not sure 10M will be open to North America. QSL with SASE to K9GY. — *The Daily DX 13 Feb 12*



Eric T6MO/K9GY



And if you haven't run across the pile up already, **6O3A** is now QRV in **Somalia** and will be taking part in the upcoming ARRL CW Contest. Darko (J28AA) is expected to be active from his hotel room in spite of reports of high QRN.

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



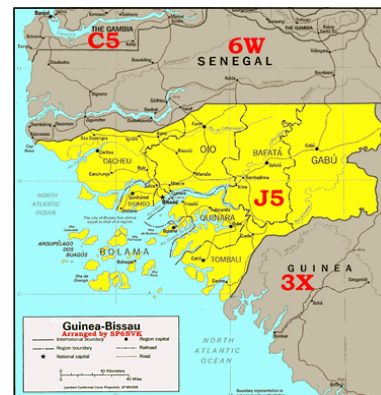
Elmo EA5BYP and Javier EA5KM

Here's your chance to get two for the price of one.

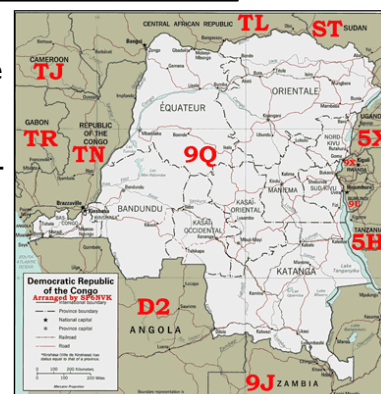
If you missed the last operation to Equatorial Guinea and Anobon Island in June 2010, here's an opportunity to make good. Both **3C** and **3C0** Dxpeditions are set for later this month and will run into March. The latest word has it that EA5BYP and EA5KM, Elmo and Javier, the same two ops from 2010, will be on 3C0 Annobon for two weeks, beginning sometime later this month. **3C6A** will be the call sign from Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea., QSL both via EA5BYP. Elmo and Javier will be equipped with a pair of Yaesu rigs and an Icom to a Spiderbeam and Hexbeam, each for five bands, with kilowatt amplifiers. For 160-30 they will have verticals. They hope to meet the demand for contacts on 160M and will announce a day ahead a special night of 160M emphasis, waiting for a night of promising propagation and low noise. Also available will be at least one beverage receiving antenna and a 5-element Yagi for six meters.



The **DXCoffee** web site reports **J52EME** will be a humanitarian mission in **Guinea-Bissau** by members of the Verona Chapter of the Amateur Radio Association of Italy. This one is scheduled for **March 24-April 6**. Guinea-Bissau is one of the poorest nations in Africa. The expedition will be from the Franciscan Cumura Mission, where the operators will be helping out there by repairing and installing power generators at a nearby hospital. QSL proceeds and donations will be turned over to the mission. Activity will be on EME, moonbounce, in addition to HF. The grid locator is IK2IDT. Here is the group's link including donation info: <http://www.ari.verona.it/veronadxteam/en/>.



ZS4U, Barney, tells The Daily DX he will be QRV as **9Q6/ZS4U** in the **Democratic Republic of Congo** from about **March 10th until the first week in April**. He'll use an FT-100D into dipoles and vertical for activity on SSB, CW and PSK on 40, 20, 15, 10 and maybe even 6 meters. He'll be working there and activity will be mostly from 1200-1600z. QSL via K3IRV.



ARRL CW Contest 2012—Continued from page 1

Jeff Briggs K1ZM set a new Canadian record of 5.9 million points from his VY2ZM super station. The overall W/VE record still stands at 6.58 million by Scott Robbins W4PA, who tapped that out in 2004 from the home station of Randy Thompson K5ZD.

Looking For A Soft Spot

As always, you don't have to be a major player to find a record that might be attainable in a major contest like ARRL DX.

In the Single Band categories, there are some marks that have stood for years:

- The 10 Meter single band mark for W3 was set in 1989 (KA3SIO)
- The 15 Meter single band mark for W4 was set in 1988 (K3RV)
- The 20 Meter single band mark for W5 was set in 1992 (K5MR)
- The 20 Meter single band mark for W6 was set in 1989 (NI6W)
- The 80 Meter single band mark for W6 was set in 1988 (W6RJ)
- The 160 Meter single band mark for W6 was set in 1986 (K6DDO)
- You can look at that list two ways - they are old records and are ripe for the taking this year - or they were so good, they have stood the test of time.
- The W/VE records are available in a pdf file on the [ARRL](http://www.arrl.org) web site. One category where records may certainly change this year is in the Single Op Low Power Assisted category - which just started in 2011, along with the Multi-Single Low Power category.

M-S LP didn't even have any entries from W2, W5, W6 or W8 - which might provide some group an opening in 2012 for a spot in the ARRL DX CW record book.

As for the Multi-Op side, the record for the US and Canada in Multi-Two has stood since 2001 for Team K1AR (at K1EA), while the Multi-Multi record hasn't budged since 2002, when Team KC1XX hit 17.5 million points.

In 2011, K3LR took the Multi-Multi honors with 14.3 million; KC1XX won in Multi-Two with 12.1 million, both well off the all-time records.

On the DX side, the same openings exist, especially when you look at the single band marks on 10 meters, which have been much the same for years.

The overall record on 10 meters single band was set back in 1993 at ZD8LII (G0LII); the 10 meter records from Asia and Oceania haven't moved since 1989 and since 1990 for North America.

A look at the 15 meter records shows what can happen when sunspots return, as new marks were set in Europe, North America, Oceania and South America in 2011 - but - the overall record by XT2WP from 2003 still stands. Maybe that will change this year.

Single band records for DX stations on 20 and 40 meters were both set in 2011 as well.

One cautionary note is that the sun has quieted down a bit since a very active October, November and December - the sunspot number at this writing was just 51.

"Well, we've regressed to the same point as we were a year ago with pretty much nothing indicating a rebound," wrote Mike N1TA on the CQ-Contest reflector, as contesters have started to worry about which direction the sun is going. "I still have seen propagation on 10m and 15m to EU but short openings and very limited in scope," wrote Rick Daugherty NQ4I in recent days.

Will things perk up for ARRL DX CW? Or are we heading back into some lackluster propagation on the bands?

"There is only a light hope the things will improve before the ARRL DX CW but STEREO images shows nothing spectacular in upcoming days," cautioned Remi LY80. "Lets keep our fingers crossed."

And so, we wait for the 2012 version of the ARRL DX Contest.

The ARRL DX CW Contest begins at 0000z February 18 and ends at 2400z on February 19.



Macquarie Island Again QRV — VK0TH, Trevor, on Macquarie, says "Pileups have been much more controlled of late and I thank you. I continue to try to do at least an hour or two of radio a day after my working day has finished. Operating hours are typically 0700-1200 UTC." Trevor's Current modes are SSB, CW, RTTY, PSK and Hellschreiber. Occasionally he visits the ON4KST chat room. "I won't take individual requests in the chat room or via email, however I am happy to work the bands when they are open and let you know where I am." A frustrated Trevor recently threatened to QRT if pileup behavior did not improve". QSL direct via JE1LET.

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

Dates		Entity	Call Sign	OSL via	Source	Details
2012 Feb05	2012 Feb17	Niue	ZK2C	DL7JAN Buro	By DK1MA et al 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY; QSL via OQRS or direct fm: Jan Foerderer, Alte Poststr. 34, 69254 Malsch, Germany	
2012 Feb05	2012 Feb17	Togo	5V7VJ	LotW	By I1FQH fm Kpalime Village; 160-6m; focus on low bands; verticals; amplifier; QSL also OK via I1FQH direct	
2012 Feb05	2012 Feb25	Mauritius	3B8GY	SP2JMB	By SP2JMB SP2TO fm AF-049; HF; CW SSB RTTY; QRV for ARRL DX CW	
2012 Feb06	2012 Feb14	Guantanamo	KG4DL	WB4DNL	By WB4DNL; mainly CW	
2012 Feb06	2012 Feb23	Guantanamo	KG4WV	W4WV	By W4WV; SSB PSK RTTY, perhaps CW	
2012 Feb07	2012 Feb28	Solomon Is	H44XB	W1XB	By W1XB; 20 15 10m; CW SSB; 5 watts	
2012 Feb08	2012 Mar08	Grenada	J38RF	KE4TG	By KE4TG fm NA-024 (WLOTA 0718); HF; mainly digital with some CW SSB	
2012 Feb09	2012 Mar26	Guatemala	TG8	W0OR	By W0OR fm Quetzaltenango; mainly CW, some SSB; spare time operation; QRV for ARRL DX CW contest	
2012 Feb09	2012 Feb15	Palau	T88WG	JH1WGP	By JH1WGP fm Koror I (OC-009, PJ77fi); 80-10m; CW SSB + digital	
2012 Feb10	2012 Feb14	Guam	KH2	JS6RRR	By JS6RRR as KH2/JS6RRR fm OC-026 (USI GU003S, WLOTA L-0064); 160-6m; CW SSB FM RTTY PSK31	
2012 Feb10	2012 Feb15	South Cook Is	E51BKV	LotW	By F4BKV fm Mangaia I (OC-159); 40-10m; SSB + digital; 500w; verticals; also briefly fm Rarotonga I (OC-013) during transit; QSL also OK via F4BKV	
2012 Feb10	2012 Feb15	Vietnam	XV2CNH	JA6CNH Direct	By JA6CNH fm Ho Chi Minh City; 160-6m; CW SSB + digital	
2012 Feb10	2012 Feb19	Palau	T88ZO	LotW	By JA1IST, also JA9BFM as T88ZT; HF; CW RTTY SSB; use full call sign only when calling; QSL also automatic via Buro or direct via home_call	
2012 Feb10	2012 Feb20	Laos	XW4XR	E21EIC Direct	By AA4XR; 40 30 20m; QRV for ARRL DX CW Contest	
2012 Feb10	2012 Feb20	St Pierre & Miquelon	FP	W6HGF	By W6HGF as FP/W6HGF; QRV for CQWW WPX RTTY and ARRL DX CW contests	
2012 Feb11	2012 Feb17	Sint Maarten	PJ7	LotW	By AK4GP as PJ7/AK4GP; 40 20m; CW; QRP	
2012 Feb11	2012 Feb24	Temotu	H40FN	HA8DD	By DK9FN fm Nendo I (OC-100); CW; also DG1FK using H40FK in digital modes (QSL via DF1FK)	
2012 Feb12	2012 Feb16	Mariana Is	KH0	JA4JWD	By JA4JWD as TBD; 80-10m; SSB + digital, perhaps CW	
2012 Feb13	2012 Feb20	Somalia	6O3A	K2PF	By J28AA fm Hargeisa (LJ29an); 40-10m; multiband vertical; QSL also OK via E77E	
2012 Feb13	2012 Feb23	Bahamas	C6	LotW	By N2RFA as C6ABB, K2KJ1 as C6ALC, KC4PX as C6APX fm Nassau, New Providence I (NA-001); 80-10m; SSB PSK31 RTTY SSTV JT65; QSLOK via home call direct or eQSL	
2012 Feb14	2012 Feb21	Rodrigues I	3B9	OE4AAC	By OE4AAC as 3B9/OE4AAC; 40-10m; CW; QSL OK via OE Buro or direct	
2012 Feb14	2012 Feb22	Antigua	V25	Home Call	By W4OWY as V25WY and AA9A as V25AA; 160-10m; SSB CW, perhaps RTTY; AA9A QRV for ARRL DX CW; QSL OK via Buro or direct	
2012 Feb16	2012 Feb25	Cambodia	XU7AFU	ON4AFU	By ON4AFU fm Kampang Song; 80-10m; focus on CW; QSL OK via Buro or direct	
2012 Feb16	2012 Feb26	Belize	V31RR	LotW	By AA4NC; 160-10m; RTTY CW SSB; QSL also OK via A14U direct; QRV for ARRL DX CW and NAQP RTTY contests	
2012 Feb17	2012 Feb21	Palau	T88KF	JA9APS	By JA9APS; 40-6m; CW SSB RTTY; QSL: Narumi Kawai, 1-10-14 Suwanokawara, Toyama, 930-0088 Japan	

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

Dates		Entity	Call Sign	OSL via	Source	Details
2012 Feb18	2012 Feb25	Guantanamo	KG4AS	N4SIA	By N4SIA; SSB RTTY PSK CW	
2012 Feb18	2012 Feb25	New Caledonia	FK	LotW	By F4BKV fm Ouvea I (OC-033); 40-10m; SSB + digital; 500w; verticals; also briefly fm Noumea (OC-032) during transit); QSL also OK via F4BKV	
2012 Feb21	2012 Feb29	Swaziland	3DA0PW	LotW	By G3SWH EA5ARC; 80-10m; CW; 2 stations; QSL also OK via OQRS (preferred) or G3SWH, Buro or direct	
2012 Feb22	2012 Feb26	Equatorial Guinea	3C6A	LotW	By EA5BYP EA5KM fm Bioko I (AF-010); 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY; QSL also OK via EA5BYP direct	
2012 Feb23	2012 Mar08	Barbados	8P9	See Info	By W1USN as 8P9CI and AA1M as 8P9CK; SSB CW PSK31; QSL 8P9CI via LotW and 8P9CK via AA1M, Buro or direct	
2012 Feb24	2012 Feb29	Greenland	XP2I	OZ1BII	By OZ1BII fm Kangerlussuaq (OX3KQ QTH); 160-10m; CW	
2012 Feb24	2012 Mar07	Senegal	6V7T	F5RAV	By F5RAV	
2012 Feb25	2012 Mar03	Guantanamo	KG4OS	KD4OS	By KD4OS; CW SSB	
2012 Feb25	2012 Mar10	Guantanamo	KG4SS	K4MIL	By K4MIL; RTTY CW SSB	

CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB (Feb 26-28, 2012) Check here for pericontest activity too.

2012 Feb26	2012 Mar02	Palau	T88	JA0EKI	By JA0EKI as T88XH and JJ0LUH as T88XG; 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY PSK61 JT65	
2012 Feb26	2012 Mar15	Belize	V31SU	N7MSU	By N7MSU; mainly 40-20m; CW SSB PSK31; Various locations including Caye Caulker, Orange Walk Town, San Ignacio and Gales Point; QSL via Buro or direct	
2012 Feb27	2012 Mar02	Gambia	C5LT	F5RAV Direct	By F5RAV fm Kololi; SSB PSK CW	
2012 Feb27	2012 Mar15	Gambia	C56XA	G3SWH	By G3XAQ; HF; CW; QRV for RSGB Commonwealth Contest	
2012 Feb27	2012 Mar10	Montserrat	VP2M		By DM2XO as VP2MXO, DL2RNS as VP2MSN, DL7JOM as VP2MOM	
2012 Feb27	2012 Mar11	Belize	V31YK	DL2AYK	By DL2AYK; 80-10m, perhaps 6m; CW SSB RTTY, some PSK31; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct	
2012 Feb28	2012 Mar11	Annonbon I	3C0E	LotW	By EA5BYP EA5KM fm AF-039 (JJ28to); 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY; QSL also OK via EA5BYP direct	
2012 Feb28	2012 Mar28	St Kitts & Nevis	V47JA	LotW	By W5JON fm St Kitts (NA-104, FK87pg); 80-6m, incl 60m; SSB; dipole, verticals, 6m yagi; QRV for CW WPX SSB; also W5HAM occasionally using V47HAM	
2012 Feb29	2012 Mar06	Mariana Is	AH0	J11DSO	By J11DSO as AH0/AE6YW fm Saipan (OC-086, USi NI002S, WLOTA 1333, QK25uf); 80-6m; QSL OK via Buro or direct	
2012 Feb29	2012 Mar09	Nepal	9N7FOX	JA8UWT	By JA8BMK; 80-10m; CW SSB RTTY; holiday style operation; QSL OK via Buro or direct	

March

2012 Mar01	2012 Mar05	Grenada	J37K	LotW	By AC8G; QSL also OK via AC8G, Buro or direct (w/ SASE)	
2012 Mar01	2012 Mar30	Marshall Is	V73FW	K4FW	By K4FW fm Kwalalein I (OC-028); exact begin and end dates unclear	
2012 Mar02	2012 Mar08	Senegal	6V7T	F5RAV Direct	By F5RAV; SSB PSK CW	

ARRL International DX Contest, SSB (Mar 3-4, 2012) Check here for pericontest activity too.

The Legacy of ZS8M — Many will remember Pierre ZS1HF operating from Marion island as [ZS8M](#) during the 2010/11 scientific season. News today informs Pierre has set up a shack near Cape Town for disabled amateurs, **using money he received from QSLs sent for his ZS8M activity!** The Ham Radio spirit remains alive and well, at least with Pierre, ZS1HF!

— DX World 02Feb12 <http://dx-world.net/>



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

Dates		Entity	Call Sign	OSL via	Source	Details
2012 Mar04	2012 Apr04	Tanzania	5H3MB	IK2GZU	By IK2GZU fm Ilembulai; 80-10m; CW SSB RTTY; yagi fixed on Europe + windom; spare time operation	
2012 Mar05	2012 Mar18	Sint Maarten	PJ7PT	SP9PT	By SP9PT SP2EBG SP2GKS SP3GEM SP3HLM fm NA-105; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY	
2012 Mar05	2012 Mar23	Jamaica	6Y0A	LotW	By N2KW; mainly CW; QRV for BERU Contest; QSL also OK via WA4WTG	
2012 Mar05	2012 Mar31	Antigua	V2I	DL7AFS	By DJ7ZG as V2IZG and DL7AFS as V2IFS fm NA-100 (WLOTA 1118, FK97cc); 160-6m; RTTY PSK SSB; QSL via DARC Buro or direct; exact end date not clear	
2012 Mar07	2012 Mar12	Vietnam	3W4JK	SP5APW	By SP5APW fm Phu Quoc I (AS-128); 40-6m, perhaps 6m; SSB PSK31 RTTY; Buddipole; call sign requested	
2012 Mar07	2012 Mar14	Virgin Is	NP2	N0TG Direct	By N0TG as NP2/N0TG and N1SNB as NP2/N1SNB; all bands, incl 60m; all modes; QSL also OK via online request	
2012 Mar07	2012 Mar24	Tonga	A35YZ	DL7DF	By DL7DF DK1BT DK7LX DL4WK DL5CW DL7KL DL7UFN DL7UFR SP3CYY SP3DOI; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY PSK31 SSTV	
2012 Mar08	2012 Mar13	Chatham Is	ZL7	VO1MX	By VO1AU as ZL7/VO1AU; CW SSB; QRV for BERU Commonwealth Contest	
2012 Mar08	2012 Mar15	Bermuda	VP9		By G3PJT as VP9/G3PJT; QRV for BERU Commonwealth Contest	
2012 Mar08	2012 Mar15	Malta	9H3C	LotW	By G3PHO fm Gozo I (EU-023); 80-10m, perhaps 160m; QRV for RGSB Commonwealth 'test; 100w; dipoles; QSL via G3PHO, Buro or direct	
2012 Mar12	2012 Mar28	Seychelles	S79NE N	DO5NEN	By DO5NEN DL5NEN fm Mahe and La Digue I (AF-024); QRV for CQ WW WPX SSB Contest	
2012 Mar12	2012 Mar30	Curacao	PJ2	DK5ON	By DK5ON as PJ2/DK5ON fm SA-099; 40-6m; SSB RTTY PSK	
2012 Mar15	2012 Mar21	Fiji	3D2YA	JA1NLX	By JA1NLX fm Yageta I (OC-156); 80-10m; CW, perhaps RTTY SSB	
2012 Mar16	2012 Mar20	Svalbard	JW	LotW	By LA2XNA as JW2XNA (SSB PSK) and LA8HGA as JW8HGA (CW); 160-10m, focus on high bands; QSL also OK via home_call, Buro or direct	
2012 Mar16	2012 Mar23	Sao Tome & Principe	S9		By K0KKO K0GUV as S92DX, S9CW and S9SX fm AF-023 (WLOTA 1622, J139gx); HF + 6m (50.105 MHz SSB, 50.105.7 MHz CW)	
2012 Mar17	2012 Mar27	Namibia	V5	DJ2HD	By DJ2HD as V5/DJ2HD; 160-10m, focus on low bands; CW SSB RTTY; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct	
2012 Mar18	2012 Mar27	Botswana	A25DS		By VE7DS; CW	
2012 Mar18	2012 Mar27	Botswana	A25KW		By VE7MID	
2012 Mar21	2012 Mar27	Aruba	P40S	DF7ZS	By DF7ZS; fm P49V; call sign tentative	
2012 Mar22	2012 Apr22	Jan Mayen I	JX9JKA	LA9JKA Direct	By LA9JKA fm EU-022; 160-6m + up; SSB + digital; operation expected to continue until Mar 2013	
2012 Mar23	2012 Apr06	Mayotte	TO7BC	DL7BC	By DL7BC fm AF-027; also FH/DL7BC; QRV for CQ WPX SSB	

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

2012 Mar24	2012 Apr06	Guinea Bis-sau	J52HF	I3LDP	By I3LDP + team; will also use J52EME; mainly EME, but also HF, 80-6m w/ mainly RTTY and CW	
2012 Mar24	2012 Apr14	Reunion	TO2R	F5UOW	By F5UOW; 40-10m; mainly CW; spare time operation	
2012 Mar28	2012 Apr10	North Cook Is	E5IM	LotW	By DJ8NK et al fm Manihiki I (OC-014); 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY; 11 verticals + a small 4 ele yagi for 6m; QSL also OK via DJ8NK, Buro or direct + OQRS	



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.

BREAKING NEWS

An international team from Malaysia, Japan and England is heading to Layang-Layang (Swallow Reefs), the Malaysian claimed island in the Spratly Islands chain where they will operate as 9M0L April 10 through the 24th.

The operation is under the sponsorship of the Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter's Society (MARTS).

Few details are available at this writing. Check this website for the latest. <http://9m0l.legendchew.com>.

The Spratly Islands are currently ranked No. 32 on the DXCC Most Wanted list worldwide.

Call Sign	Country/ Modes	Bands	Total
AB4UF	0	0	0
AC4ET	0	0	0
K3LB	70	135	205
K4EB	0	0	0
K4UTE	198	238	436
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	7	10	17
VP5YZ	0	0	0
W4FDA	0	0	0
W4GAL	0	0	0
W4GJ	0	0	0
WA4B	0	0	0
WA4ET	0	0	0
WA6EZY	133	159	292
WR4K	78	108	186

DX

The Ultimate Contact Sport



N6WR SK

Armond Noble, N6WR, founder and publisher of *WorldRadio* magazine for 37 years, died February 1 in Sacramento, California after a short illness.

WorldRadio was published monthly from July 1971 until the end of 2008, when Noble sold the magazine to Hicksville, New York-based CQ Communications, Inc. With its February 2009 edition, it was renamed *WorldRadio Online* and became the first online-only major amateur radio publication.

Noble had a long and distinguished career in communications. From 1953 to 1955 he served in the U.S. Army with a VHF radio relay unit. He went on to positions at commercial radio and TV stations around the United States, including: KTWQ-TV and KATI in Casper, Wyoming; KOOK-TV, Billings, Montana; KTVB, Boise, Idaho; KERO-TV, Bakersfield, California, WOOD-TV, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and KCRA Radio in Sacramento.

During the Vietnam War, Noble was a reporter-photographer for TIME magazine and the Milwaukee Journal. He also served in the TIME-LIFE bureau in Sacramento. —CQ Newsroom

ARRL To Permit Use of LoTW for CQ Awards

Applicants for CQ's WPX award will soon be able to use ARRL Logbook of the World (LoTW) credits in their applications, under an agreement between CQ and the ARRL announced on January 24. Previously, ARRL had prohibited the use of its LoTW system by any outside organization. The target date for starting WPX support on LoTW is April 1, 2012. Support for additional CQ awards will follow, although no timetable has been set.

CQ Communications President and Publisher Dick Ross, K2MGA, said he is looking forward to making it easier for hams to apply for CQ awards. "We have had excellent results with electronic confirmation support from eQSL for several years," he said, "and I am glad that we are now able to begin expanding that convenience to those participants in our award programs who use Logbook of the World. We look forward to a smooth launch for WPX, and to the expansion of LoTW support to include the rest of our award programs as well." Standard CQ award fees and ARRL LoTW credit fees will apply, and will be collected separately—CQ Newsroom



Proposed Illinois Bill Bans Amateur Mobile Radio Activity

New legislation has been introduced into the Illinois House that will have a significant impact on the mobile use of amateur radio transceivers within the state.

House Bill 3970 would ban use of all electronic communication devices with the limited exceptions of those in a hands-free or voice-activated mode and for law-enforcement and operators of emergency vehicles or parked vehicles.

Not included in that bill is any exception for two way radios or amateur radios. In effect the bill, if passed, would ban all Amateur and CB / GMRS / FRS activity in vehicles in Illinois.

If you like CW you'll love what W2VU has to say in his monthly CQ Magazine column this month. The venerable mode continues to thrive despite not being required for any US Amateur Radio license. Read his column here: <http://www.tinyurl.com/6rreyxy>



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

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

NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page (<http://www.ng3k.com/>),

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

DX World of Ham Radio (<http://www.dx-world.net/>),

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

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

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

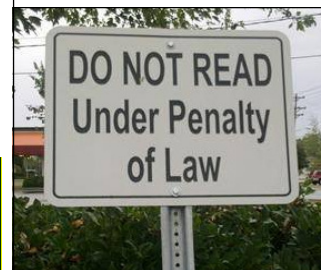
Pete's DX Newsdesk (<http://www.dx-newsdesk.co.uk/>),

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

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

— NW4C

It's the Law!



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

And so it goes . . .

JOIN THE RESISTANCE!



The Last Word — NW4C

Propagation hasn't been the best lately but good DX continues to be spotted and worked by the deserving. Hopefully, you are among those who are on top of things if it's one (or more) that you need. Lately, though, for some reason I've been coming up short, especially along the early morning path to the far Pacific. In the afternoons I'm able to hold my own. The morning's recently have been another story.

I'm currently playing tag with JG8NQJ/JD1 on Minami Torishima (Marcus Island). Take's been showing up on 30 meters anywhere from 5 to 7 am. But about the time I should be hearing him Take switches to some higher band. One of us is always zigging when the other is zagging!

Chasing DX is a 'humblelizing' experience, if I may coin a word. Just about the time you think you have it figured out—and I should by now since I'm up to 321 confirmed—something comes along to dispel that notion! I better figure it out before mid-March because that's when Take leaves the island.

All things considered we have it pretty good here in northern Florida and it will get even better when the long-rumored KPI operation is finalized and an operation date-certain is set. Nothing major on tap for March. But CY9 St Paul and the 9M0 Spratly Island operations are scheduled for April. But that's the future—Minami Torishima is 'now'!

May the good DX be yours — **NW4C**