

The Nugget



Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

MEETING DATE, LOCATION & PROGRAM

When: Our next meeting is **Saturday, January 28th** at 12:00 noon.

Where: The Colina de Oro Restaurant in Shingle Springs at 11:30AM. The Colina de Oro is located at 4120 Sunset Lane. Sunset is off of Mother Lode Drive, one block east of Ponderosa Road. Mother Lode is the frontage road south of the Highway 50 / Ponderosa Road overpass and you turn left (towards the freeway) at the intersection of Sunset and Mother Lode. See the club's website at <http://www.mldxcc.org/> and click on "meetings" for a map and more information.

What: Bob, W1RH will tell us all we ever wanted to know about Club Log and what it can do for us.

The following photos were taken at our November 2011 meeting, show some of our members enjoying lunch, and guests Bob, K6DGQ and Howard, KK6OB.



Guest: Bob, K6DGQ



2012 Meeting Dates:

**January 28th, Shingle Springs
February 24th, Martell
March 17th, Martell
April – No meeting
No December meeting.**

2012-Officers

**President – Bob, W1RH
Vice President – Dana, N6DW
Secretary – Kay, K6KO
Treasurer – Carolyn, K6TKD
Director – Ray, ND6S
Director – Shirl, AA6K**

**The International DX Convention is
scheduled for April 20-22, 2012 at
the Holiday Inn, Visalia, CA USA**

**See follow the hyperlink below to the
convention webpage for all the
information and to register.**

<http://www.dxconvention.org/index.html>

Guest: Howard, KK6OB



P40K (K6KO) 10 Meter ARRL Contest



**Left antenna stack on Europe. Right on
USA, and STEPP-IR in center on South
America**

FROM THE PREZ

In this article, my first as the MLDXCC President, I'd like to start off by wishing everyone a very Happy New Year.

When I moved here a few years ago, from YCCC territory, I was really disappointed in that I would rarely be able to make a NCCC meeting. YCCC is a great club and I happened to live about 20 minutes from the regular meeting location, so I rarely missed a meeting. Just knowing some of those world-class W1 and W2 contesters was fantastic. More importantly, however, was what I learned from those guys and gals and the good friendships I made. So, knowing that I would rarely make a NCCC meeting was quite a let-down.

Enter MLDXCC.

I forgot just how I found out about this club, but I'm sure glad I discovered it! In this relatively small group are another set of world-class hams in both the contesting and DX'ing communities. It became readily apparent to me that the knowledge base and friendships I had acquired with YCCC would be supplemented by an all-new knowledge base and friendships, not from the NCCC group, but from the Mother Load DX/Contest Club. It's not my intent to say anything detrimental about NCCC at all....it's just that, since I'm only able to make one meeting a year or so, I haven't had the opportunity to get to know my fellow NCCC members as I've gotten to know many of you who make up MLDXCC.

And, that's the draw to being a member of our club. The ability to meet, face-to-face, a friendly group of experienced contesters, DX'ers, and RF/electronics wizards who are here to share their knowledge and experience with others.

So, where are we going as a club in the upcoming year? Well, for starters, I'd like to see us beat our fantastic scores in the 2011 CQWW CW and SSB contests; and of course, there's another CQP and the increased competition from REDXA – which is a good thing for REDXA, MLDXCC, and NCCC. I hope to find that these two clubs have a real rivalry going with nail biting on both sides until the final results reveal just who gets the gavel.

We're a DX club too and we need to show the world just how good we are as DX'ers by getting all of our members to submit their logs to Club Log. That will be high on my list in the upcoming year.

Finally, I'd like to thank all of our officers, past and present for making this a club that I'm proud to be a part of. In particular, I'd like to single out Rick, W6SR, the editor of the Nugget, and Norm, N6JV, our webmaster. Year after year, both Norm and Rick have delivered a quality product to our members and future members, and we're very fortunate to have both of them on our team. **de Bob,W1RH**

FROM THE VP

Happy New Year to All and Good DX! I was startled to hear that my tenure as Vice-President didn't go poof when the ball dropped, so here I am again! As usual, I have little actual news. Contesting season was a good one this year with MLDXCC in CQ Worldwide CW and SSB, and December was a good contesting month with both the ARRL 10m and 160m contests for MLDXCC members. Of course Murphy visited me and I had to operate 160 without an amplifier (into my eighth wave inverted L) and with holiday commitments couldn't even play in the 10m contest.

The next meeting is January 28th in Shingle Springs at the Colina de Oro Restaurant in Shingle Springs at 11:30AM. The Colina de Oro is located at 4120 Sunset Lane. Directions are on the website. Food is always good. Friendship is better.

In addition to election matters, the meeting is a planning meeting for the year. The recent interest in Club Log has given us an opportunity for intra-club competition for the year. The CQ DX Marathon has similar opportunities. We should also review club sponsorship of awards in contests for the best fit and club awareness.

Finally, I hope that we can prevail on our DXperts to give us an update on DXpeditions coming up in the next year.

Dana Phillips, N6DW

January 2012 Treasurer's Report

**Balance October 31, 2011:
\$1410.85**

Income: Dues K6MM
15.00
Expenses:
00.00

**Balance December 31, 2011:
\$1425.85**

Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD, Treasurer

Tube of the Month de Norm, N6JV

UV-211

With the success of the UV-203, the RCA Company announced a new version of the "50 watter" in 1923. The 203 was

designed as a transmitting tube and there was a need for tubes that would work better as audio amplifiers. AM broadcasting was starting to catch on and modulation tubes were desirable. Audio tubes don't require any special design above that required for a transmitting tube. The 203 had a mu or amplification factor of 25, so reducing the number of turns on the grid would reduce the mu. The UV-211 had a mu of 12.5. The KFBK (Sacramento) transmitter of 1924 had a pair of 50 watters in parallel in a Hartley circuit and was modulated by a pair of 211 types. The military designated the new tube as the VT-4-B and General Electric, who actually made the tubes, called it the PR-11-A. RCA was not shy about stealing ideas and the 211 was a good example. In 1921, the Western Electric Company developed a similar tube called the WE-211A. RCA held the triode patent, so they got away with a lot.

The UV-211 was replaced by the 211 or VT-4-C. In the 1930s, military designers were developing transmitters for the new heavy bombers. The BC-375 was made in vast numbers ~~\$410.85~~ and during WWII. This transmitter had three 211s in the final and one as a modulator. One BC-375 was used in every B-17, B-24, B25, B-26 and early B29s. They were also used in portable and mobile applications. The VT-4-C was very common after the war and they were everywhere along with the BC-375. ~~\$1425.85~~ They could buy them for a dollar at ~~\$1410.85~~ meet.

Then the audio nuts discovered the better sound from vacuum tubes than solid state and the rush was on. It a short time the VT-4-C cost \$75 each and they are still climbing. Recent eBay sales are well over \$100. New single ended audio amplifiers are being sold and big bucks using the old VT-4-C. Never give up on an old tube. <http://home.comcast.net/~n6jv/211.html>

Editor's Notes de Rick, W6SR

Hi All, and Happy New Year!

Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season, and that Santa Claus packed your stockings with lots of radio goodies. I guess I must have been a bad boy the past year cause' I didn't get anything here but the bills. Hi Hi

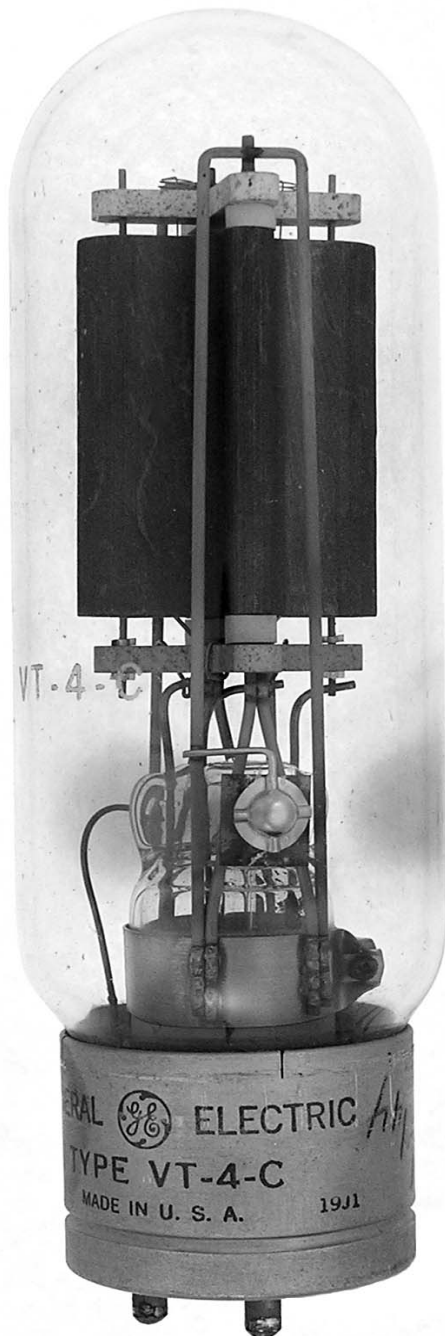
You may have noticed that our newsletter looks different; at least I hope you did. I changed the font from Times-Roman #12 to Verdana #11, for improved readability for us "old farts". Let me know what you think, OK?

Christmas was busy here, Karen and I provided Christmas dinner for 16 people this year, the bad part was we had to cook and transport everything to my brother's place in Sacramento. Why? My mother, who is 97, and lives in a small house on my brother's property, refuses to travel to anymore. So dinner had to be transported from Pville to the gathering in Sacramento. Oh well, I guess if you make it to 97, you can call the shots.

On Jan 30th, we are off to LA for a few days, to visit the kids and grandkids; we managed to snag a couple of the Jet Blue \$39 tickets, so we couldn't pass that up. Also, it's our oldest son birthday on the 23rd and Karen's on the 20th so we will do some joint celebrating. It is a milestone one for Karen, but she won't let me tell you what that milestone is, Hi HI

DX? Yeah, I worked a few more band countries the past couple of months, the HK0NA on 160 and 80M, as well as the T88OW on 160M and a few more on 30M.

For the last year or so, I have been working (in my mind, anyway) on a new 6M PA using a GS-35B Russian tube, since I already have several of them in the



Visit the museum at N6JV.com
Norm N6JV

junk-box. Recently I came into possession of an old commercial 48MHz rig that used a 4-250 tetrode. On and off I have been beating on it for the last month, and have it about 90% completed. Unlike Norm's power amplifier (shown in the next section), mine uses a conventional Pi-Network to tune it. But I must admit mine does not look nearly as good inside as Norm's unit. In my defense, I was rebuilding an existing unit, and not starting from a "clean chassis". My amplifier was assembled using the "Natural Order of Things" engineering method. What is that you ask? It is basically use whatever ya' got in the ol' junk-box, while trying not drill any more holes than necessary in the front panel or chassis. My efforts are shown below:



Enough for now, see you all at the meeting on the 28th.....**de Rick, W6SR**

Member
news/feedback/Announcements/and
Items For Sale

For the newsletter (which is always very welcome) I'd like to offer my **Elecraft K2/100 for sale. It has lots of options**; it was built by Mark (WT6P) and Mary (NA6E, SK) Cherry and updated by a well known 4-lander whose call I don't remember. It's a superb little high performance transceiver and it comes with lots of documentation. **A great deal**

at a thousand bucks. I also have a Yaesu FT-736R VHF rig with 2M, 420, 6M and 220. Price TBD, make offer.

Well, I might as well include my faithful **FT-1000MP with several CW and SSB filters for \$1200. More details if you're interested.**

Lots more stuff, mostly contest oriented. Feel free to inquire. bill@k6km.com Thanks, Bill, K6KM

CQ WW WPX WP First in W6, Low Power SO 10 Meters, sixth in NA, Third in US. Thanks CQ for nice Certificate. I received a fat pkg of cards from the 6th call area Buro. Eleven new band countries and 2 new CW. HK0NA FB OP on 14.024 last evening, 559 here in the grey line. The jammers brought out their Raw AC, Flatulence and continuous tuners, but the HK0 op was still ok copy. CU in the pile ups. **Ray ND6S**

Dave, W6DE, has his shack set up with this control box for his 240 Volt supply.



I just received 1st place certificate for the multi-two division in the WPX contest for the 6 call area. We came in #4 North America and #3 in the United States. Congratulations to N6RC, WX6V, KF6T, K6ST, K7MS and WC6H the team at WC6H. **73 Rich, WC6H**

Thanks to K6SRZ for the 80M spot of C21HA. I just worked him on 80 CW to complete my 5BDXCC. Now to collect the QSL.....**de ShirI/AA6K**



The new GS-35B amplifier for 6 meter EME is complete and testing has started.

The tube needs to be burned in before HV is applied.

Norm, N6JV

I picked up a Pro67B for the cost of getting it out of a garage. It will go on the second tower. I've been out with the pickax digging guy anchor holes. I replaced the antenna relay in my original FT-1000MP. The second MP I bought from K6TA is doing just fine although I miss the Inrad filters in my original MP. 902 Q's in ARRL RTTY. I finally got North Dakota on RTTY for the ARRL Triple Play award, which I have applied for.

Bob, W1RH

Palm Springs Hamfest 2012 , January 28 an ARRL Sanctioned Event.

Location: 4193 Matthew drive, Palm Springs, Ca.

Presented by the Desert RATS Club of Palm Springs, CA

...you're invited to come to Palm Springs Hamfest 2012 January 28 for a day of fun and fraternalism we have :35 Commercial Vendors, Demo's, Displays, SWAP MEET, Desert RATS* 2nd Hand Consignment Store, Military Radio Museum, Seminars and much more

Celebrity Guest Gordon West sky view Tram ride (Sunday morning outing) up 10,000 ft Mt. San Jacinto for those hanging around for the weekend sign in at registration.

Come in your regular set of wheels or in your "RAT Rod", or Classic car (special parking to show off your beauty) or Golf Cart it is Palm Springs so bring your golf clubs.

Desert RATS XYL home cookin Food Concession / All Day Raffles / Seminars

and more at this one of a kind Special Event!

Entry fee \$2 includes a raffle ticket... Raffles will be held every 20 minutes

You'll be guaranteed to come away having had a great time with us under the Palm Trees in warm Palm Springs. Palm Springs is noted for it's nostalgia and this event brings you back to bygone days of the old time Classic Hamfest with our unique twist of a High Tech Hamfest. The Desert RATS gift to the Ham Community.

■

See our web site *Forum* then follow the links for more information it will be updated daily till the event day!

Forum:

<http://desertrats.x.am>
<<http://desertrats.17.forumer.com/viewforum.php?f=42>>

Web site for general information :

<http://desertrats.am>

MLDXCC MEETING – November 12, 2011 – Martell, CA

CALL TO ORDER - Meeting called to order at 12:14 by Shirl, AA6K, President.

Officer Roll Call

President: Shirl, AA6K

Treasurer: Carolyn, K6TKD

Secretary: Bob, W1RH

Director: Ken, K6TA

Director: Rich, WC6H

Newsletter Editor: Rick, W6SR

Webmaster: Norm, N6JV

Introductions – Two guests present: Bob, K6DGQ and Howard, KK6OB.

Approval of Minutes – The October minutes were approved by those present.

Treasurer's Report – Approved by those present.

Committee Meetings – None

Achievements

Rick and Ray commented on the great score for MLDXCC in CQWW SSB.

Lyle, K6QG, mentioned that he ranked #72 in band-modes worked for the T32C DXpedition.

Shirl mentioned that he had two new DXCC entities – Maldives and Egypt.

Norm, N6JV, reported that he worked Mt Athos, which has been active on 10 and 12 meter RTTY

K7TA placed 1st Aruba, and 2nd world, in the 160 meter contest.

SK – Jim Maxwell's wife (reported by Kay). K6KTB(?), Don (reported by Dick)

OLD BUSINESS

Letter to NCCC

Bob, W1RH, will write a letter to NCCC thanking the contest club for the plaque presented to MLDXCC for 1st place, California QSO Party. There was some discussion regarding club letterhead. If we need new letterhead, the logo is on the website.

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting Dates

January 28th, Shingle Springs (CQ 160 Meter CW Contest)

February 24th, Martell (CQ 160 Meter SSB Contest)

March 17th, Martell
 April – No meeting
 May – No date but location may be
 Auburn

Contest Planning

CQWW CW – W1RH flogger

Upcoming DX

Malpelo HK0NA – January

Nepal – Starts 11/12

Aruba - K6TA does 160 Contest as P40TA
 K6KO does ARRL 10 meter contest as
 P40K

Johnston Island – January

Presentation Ideas for Future Meetings

Invite N6PSE for a talk. Hold meeting
 somewhere in the Valley

Antenna design by W6SR

MEETING CLOSED

Presentation - VP8ORK video

List of those present:

CALL	NAME	QTH	MLDX CC	NCCC
W1RH	BOB	LOTUS	X	X
W6SR	RICK	PLACERVILLE	X	X
KI6CG	GEORGE	GRASS VALLEY	X	X
K6QG	LYLE	VALLEY SPRINGS	X	X
N6JV	NORM	SACRAMENTO	X	X
W6RFF	JETTIE	ROSEVILLE	X	X
K6DGQ	BOB	GALT		
W6DE	DAVE	PLACERVILLE	X	X
WC6H	RICH	VALLEY SPRINGS	X	X
K6LRN	DICK	OMO RANCH	X	X
K6TA	KEN	PINE GROVE	X	X
K6KO	KAY	PINE GROVE	X	X
K6TKD	CAROLYN	OMO RANCH	X	X
ND6S	RAY	SUTTER HILL	X	X
KK6OB	HOWARD	PINE GROVE		
AA6K	SHIRL	STOCKTON	X	X

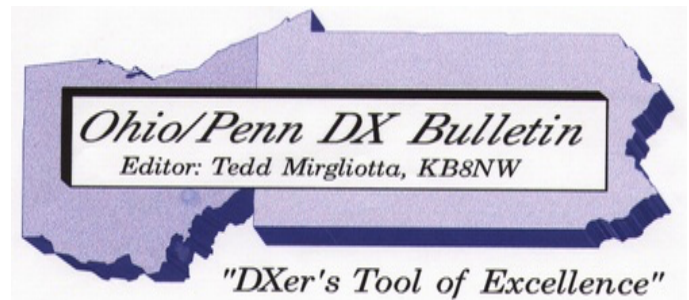
**Click on the Hyperlink below to
 check-out the MLDXCC scores in the
 latest contests.**

<http://mldxcc.org/scores.html>

UP-COMING DX and Dxpeditons

**Click the link below to display up-
 coming Announced DXpeditons:**

<http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>



OPDX Bulletin 1045 January 16, 2012

The Ohio/Penn Dx PacketCluster

DX Bulletin No. 1045

BID: \$OPDX.1045

January 16, 2012

Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW

Provided by BARF80.ORG (Cleveland, Ohio)

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, AB5K & the AR TelNet Clusters Network, K1XN & GoList, NJ1Q & ARRL DX, NG3K & ADXO, W3UR & The Daily DX, N4AA & QRZ DX, N4JF, K6VVA, KH6BZF, N7OU, N7UN, NN7A, K8GI, K8YSE, W8GEX (60m News), W9OL, 5Q2J, AT International, DK8JB & The DX News Letter, DL1SBF, DxCoffee.com, DX-World.Net, F5NQL, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, HA0HW, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, I1RBJ, LU1FAM, OZ6OM & 50 MHz DX News, PS7AB, RSGB IOTA Web Site, SM3CVM, TA1HZ, VA3RJ & ICPO, VHF-DX- Portal, YT3W and ZS2DL for the following DX information.

DXCC COUNTRY/ENTITY REPORT

According to the AR-Cluster Network for the week of Sunday, 8th-January, through

Sunday, 15th-January there were 215 countries active. Countries available: 3A, 3B8, 3D2, 3DA, 3V, 3W, 4J, 4L, 4S, 4U1I, 4W, 4X, 5B, 5H, 5N, 5R, 5U, 5W, 5X, 5Z, 6W, 6Y, 7Q, 7X, 8P, 9A, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9L, 9M2, 9M6, 9N, 9Q, 9V, 9Y, A4, A5, A6, A7, A9, AP, BV, BY, C2, C3, C6, C9, CE, CE9, CM, CN, CP, CT, CT3, CU, CX, D2, D4, DL, DU, E5/s, E7, EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, EI, EK, ER, ES, ET, EU, EX, EY, EZ, F, FG, FJ, FK, FM, FO, FR, FY, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU, GW, HA, HB, HB0, HC, HH, HI, HK, HK0/m, HL, HP, HR, HS, HV, HZ, I, IS, J2, J3, J6, J7, J8, JA, JD/o, JT, JY, K, KG4, KH0, KH2, KH6, KL, KP2, KP4, LA, LU, LX, LY, LZ, OA, OD, OE, OH, OH0, OK, OM, ON, OX, OZ, P2, P4, PA, PJ2, PJ4, PJ5, PJ7, PY, PZ, S2, S5, SM, SP, ST, SU, SV, SV5, SV9, T32, T7, T8, TA, TF, TG, TI, TJ, TK, TL, TR, TT, TU, TY, UA, UA2, UA9, UK, UN, UR, V2, V3, V4, V5, V8, VE, VK, VK0M, VP2E, VP2V, VP5, VP8, VP8/h, VP9, VQ9, VR, VU, XE, XU, YA, YB, YI, YL, YN, YO, YS, YU, YV, Z2, Z3, ZA, ZB, ZC4, ZD7, ZD8, ZF, ZL, ZP, ZS

* **PLEASE NOTE:** The report "could" contain "Pirate/SLIM" operations or more likely a "BUSTED CALLSIGN". As always, you never know - "Work First Worry Later" (WFWL).

3D2C, CONWAY REEF

Operators Hrane/YT1AD (Team leader), David/K3LP (Technical Co-leader), Aleksey/UA4HOX (Organization Co-leader), Paul/ N6PSE (PR), Atilano/PY5EG, Vasily/RW4NW, David/WD5COV, Carlos/EA1IR, Joe/AA4NN, David/AH6HY, Alan/AD6E, Gabriele/I2VGW and Alan/K6SRZ (Medical Doctor) and possibly two others (spots are open!) will be active as 3D2C from Conway Reef (OC-112) between September 25th and October 6th. Most of these operators were active from Rotuma as 3D2R last year. Activity will be on 160-2 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, SSTV and PSK31. Suggested frequencies are:
CW - 1822, 3503, 7005, 10105, 14025, 18075, 21025, 24895 and 28025 kHz
SSB - 1835, 3795, 5403.5, 7082, 14190, 18150, 21295, 24950 and 28495 kHz
RTTY - 1835, 3582, 7035, 10145, 14081, 18100, 21081, 24920 and 28081 kHz
SSTV - 3723, 7035, 14230, 21335 and 28680 kHz
PSK31 - 1835, 3582, 7035, 10145, 14081, 18100, 21081, 24920 and 28081 kHz

The 3D2C team will be active from Conway Reef on 2m and 6 EME using WSJT65 (A,B,C) on 50.375 MHz and 144.375 MHz. A 6 meter beacon will be active on 50.095 MHz. QSL via YT1AD, direct (w/SAE or SASE + 1 USD for normal postage, 2 USDs for Airmail) or by the Bureau. For more details and updates, visit the 3D2C Web page at:

<http://www.yt1ad.info/3d2c/index.html>

3V, TUNISIA

SWL Ashraf "Ash", 3V4-002 (KF5EYY), will be active as 3V8SS from the "Radio Club Station of Tunisian Scouts" in Sousse, during the CQ 160-Meter CW Contest (January 27-29th) as a Single-Op/Low-Power entry. QSL via LoTW or to LX1NO. Read about Ashraf on the following Web page at:

<http://www.qsl.net/3v4-002>

4W, TIMOR-LESTE

Vlad, UA4WHX, is once again on the move and is currently active as 4W0VB from **Timor-Leste (OC-148)**. His length of stay is not known as of press time. Activity has been mainly CW on 40/30/20/17/12 meters. QSL via UA4WHX.

7P8, LESOTHO

Donovan, ZS2DL, will lead a team of operators to Lesotho between November 9-19th. The team of 8 operators will be active on 80-10 meters focusing mainly on CW and RTTY with possibly some SSB. A callsign has not yet been assigned (currently awaiting official papers from the Lesotho Communications Authority - possibly 7P8D). Donovan is looking for operators and sponsors. QSL direct via: LESOTHO DXPEDITION 2012, P.O. Box 29169, Sunridge Park, 6008, SOUTH AFRICA (w/2 USDs - Please no IRC as it is difficult to convert at the post office). A OQRS system (PayPal) will also be implemented just before the expedition. Logs will be uploaded to LoTW within 12 months after the DXpedition has ended. For more details, visit:

<http://www.zs2dl.co.za>

--or--

<http://www.zs2dl.co.za/7P8D.html>

8Q, MALDIVES (Date Change)

Operators Bert/CX3AN and Mario/CX4CR will be active as 8Q7HU from Maafushi Island, Kaafu Atoll (AS-013), between February 6-

15th. Activity will be on 80-6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. There will be a special emphasis on South America.

9M2, WEST MALAYSIA (Special Event)

Neoh, 9M2CLN, station master for the Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter Society (MARTS), announced that the special event callsign, 9M4CNY, will be active to celebrate the "Chinese New Year Cultural And Heritage Celebration 2012" from **Penang Island (AS-015)** on January 29th, between 0700-1600z. Suggested frequency are 14288 kHz and 7088 kHz, SSB only. QSL only direct to address on QRZ.com.

A5, BHUTAN

Iain, G4SGX, will be active as A52JF from Bhutan between February 11-15th. Activity will be on 40-10 meters using CW, SSB, PSK and JT65. He will use K3 radio. QSL via his home callsign. For updates, watch Iain's Blog page at:

<http://www.g4sqx.org/blog>

C5, GAMBIA

Alan, G3XAQ, will be active as C56XA from The Gambia between February 27th and March 15th. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW. Also, look for Alan to participate in the RSGB Commonwealth Contest (March 10-11th). QSL via G3SWH.

CT9, MADEIRA ISLANDS

Julius, OM7JG, will once again be active from **Madeira Island (AF-014)** as CT9/OM7JG during the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 18-19th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/Low-Power entry. QSL via OM7JG.

CT9, MADEIRA ISLANDS

Tibor, OM3RM, will be active as CR3A during the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 18-19th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry. QSL via CT3EE. Look for him before the contest as CT9/OM3RM.

CY0, SABLE ISLAND (Update)

From the

<http://www.cy0dxpedition.com>

Web page dated January 14th: "We are in the process of rescheduling the CY0 operation. Our business schedules will dictate, in part, when we can make another attempt. The goal is to select a time after the winter weather conditions to increase the certainty next time

of being able to travel to Sable Island without delay from a winter storm. Once a date has been confirmed with the Sable Island station, we plan to recruit a CW operator, with DXpedition or contest experience, to 'round out' the team. With improving propagation conditions, the band conditions will provide more opportunity than two operators can satisfy. The plan is for:

1st Operator - WA4DAN - 70% SSB, 30% CW

2nd Operator - AA4VK - 100% SSB

3rd Operator - ?????? - 70% CW, 30% SSB

Continue to check the CY0dxpedition Web site and the various DX bulletins for updates."

DAYTON HAMVENTION (Press Release - SWODXA DX Dinner)

Joe, W8GEX, reports: "The SOUTHWEST OHIO DX Association (SWODXA) is pleased to announce that we will again sponsor the DX Dinner™, held in conjunction with the 2012 Dayton Hamvention®. This, our 27th annual dinner, will be on Friday, May 18, 2012. The dinner will again be at the Dayton Marriott, 1414 S. Patterson Blvd., Dayton, OH 45409.

There will be a cash bar starting at 5:30 p.m., with dinner served at 7:00. Following the meal, there will be a separate room and cash bar available for more fellowship. This is an excellent opportunity to meet new hams, and renew old acquaintances, as well as learn about past DXpeditions and those in the planning stages.

We were pleased with our new venue at the Marriott last year. The dining room is on the ground floor so there are no steps, there is a larger capacity, and there is ample free, on-site parking.

This dinner is always well attended by some of the most avid DXers in the world. As in the past, there will be some major door prizes, and there is always great anticipation as to who will be named the 'DXpedition of the Year'.

The Marriott is a large hotel with many room choices. Should you need accommodations, their Web site is

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/dayoh-dayton-marriott>

and their phone number is 937 223-1000.

Details and dinner reservation information can be found on the SWODXA Web site, at

www.swodxa.org

. From there, click on the DX Dinner icon.

You can print the reservation form and submit it with your personal check or money order.

And as an alternative, we are happy to announce that this year we are also accepting PayPal and credit card payments.

Program details and a list of the prizes will be on the Web site as they become available. Check out our Facebook page at 'Southwest Ohio DX Association', or follow us on Twitter @SWODXA"

FR, REUNION

Pierre, F8APV, will be active as FR/F8APV from **Reunion Island (AF-016)** between January 22nd and February 10th. Activity will take place everyday between 0100-0400z on 40/30 meters CW, and then between 1700-1900z on 20 meters SSB. QSL via his home callsign.

FS, SAINT MARTIN (Also PJ7)

Benoit, F8PDR, will be active as FS/F8PDR from **Saint Martin (NA-105)**, WLOTA 383, DIFO FS-001) between February 5-16th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using mainly CW and RTTY, with 100 watts into a dipole and vertical antennas. He is also planning a side trip to Sint Maarten (PJ7). QSL via F8DPR, direct or by the Bureau and also LoTW.

HKONA DXPEDITION (Latest News Dated January 12th)

The following press release is from the HKONA Web page [edited]: "The 'Fabulous Four' (Faber/ HK6F, Jim/HK1N, Bolmar/HK1MW and Salim/HK1T) advance team continue their work of building the infrastructure for HKONA with emphasis shifting now to OP. A (top of the mountain). And ..in their spare time making some QSOs with the deserving.

Of course, we are hearing from a small minority that they are doing everything wrong and not listening here or there or whatever. May we suggest to you and everyone be patient, and remember that 16 more operators will be there the morning of the 21st for up to 17 days.

Yesterday the DXCC desk confirmed that QSOs made by the advance team, when they used their individual calls, will count for DXCC

purposes. Those logs will not be available until after the DXpedition concludes. May we suggest that you work HKONA also.

We intend to upload the HKONA logs to ClubLog soon after the arrival of the main operating team. Don't bother checking the 'Log Online' until then.

Lastly, our volunteer pilots kindly request that you not contact them until after the main operation begins! Thanks to all!"

ADDED NOTE: Some pictures are now available and can be viewed on the HKONA Web page under "Camp Setup". For more details and updates, visit:

<http://hk0na.com>

LATEST MINUTE UPDATE: The HKONA Web page is reporting: "For the last couple of nights there have been many bogus HKONA spots on the clusters. While there is a limited operation by the advance crew, and thus some of the spots are valid, one or more 'slims' are apparently calling CQ using the HKONA call." Read the whole press release on the Web page for more details under "Latest News".

IOTA DXPEDITION (NA-172/NA-050/NA-004). Rick, K6VVA, informs OPDX [edited]:

"After completing NA-242 last July with Mike, K9AJ, 2012 is the year to now wrap up a 'Clean Sweep' of the KL7 North Slope IOTA #'s. Plans are to start with **NA-172** left over from last year partly due to area fog problems. Mike may also join me for the other two. I hope to finalize NA-004 approval soon. Several other KL7 IOTA trips are also in the planning stages, and Mike (and I) still have **NA-240** targeted for June 28-30th, 2012." Stay tuned for more details on the "KL7 North Slope IOTA EXTRAVAGANZA!!", by watching the Web page at:

<http://www.k6vva.com/iota/na172>

Also, check TWITTER at:

<http://www.twitter.com/k6vva>

QSL "ONLY" via N6AWD (direct or by the Bureau). Rick states, "If I/we respond to a callsign or partial callsign that is NOT even close to yours, please QRX and do NOT call. Really. Seriously. And please, NO 'SAME BAND/MODE DUPES'!!!"

IOTA NEWS

EU-059. Operators Allan/GM3OZB, Barry/GM3YEH, Bill/GM3ZRT, John/GM0DJG, Gordon/MM0BIM and Declan/EI6FR will be active as GM7WCO/p from **St. Kilda Island** between May 16-21st. Activity will be on the HF bands and 6 meters using CW, SSB and possibly RTTY. QSL via GM7WCO.

NA-085. Dennis, WA2USA, is to be active as WA2USA/4 from **St. George Island** (USI FL007S, Franklin County, Fl) between February 1-27th. Activity will be on all HF bands. QSL via WA2USA, direct or by the Bureau. For more details, see Dennis's Web site at:

<http://www.wa2usa.com>

SA-018. (UPDATE) Operators Roberto/CE3CT (ex-CE4CT), Pedro/CE3FZ and Luc/LU1FAM will be active as 3G7C from **Chiloé Islands** between April 15-18th. Activity will be focused on 30 meters and the low bands. They will have 2 stations active on CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via: PO BOX 3159, SANTIAGO DE CHILE, CHILE. They are looking for funds and support would be appreciated, please contact: lu1fam@yahoo.com For updates and operating frequencies, visit:

<http://3g7c.blogspot.es>

SA-030. Look for a Uruguayan team to activate **Flores Island** as CV5A during March. QSL via CX2ABC. No other details were provided.

J3, GRENADA

Once again, members of the "Buddies in the Caribbean" 2012 (Team #1) will mount a mini-DXpedition to **Grenada (NA-024)** between February 1-9th. The Buddipole team, which specializes in 100 watts or less low power radios and the Buddipole portable antenna systems, will have fixed operations from a cliff-top villa and portable operations from various points on the island using CW, SSB, and the Digital modes, on 160-10 meters. The team consists of the following operators: Budd/W3FF, Mike KC4VG, Chris/W6HFP, Guy/N7UN, Bill/W7ZT, Weymouth/K8EAB, Paul/KB9AVO and Steve/WG0AT. Licensing is not yet complete, but each operator is expected to receive their

J3/callsign. QSL via LoTW, eQSL, or mail to operator's home callsign (SASE required).

J3, GRENADA

Roy, KE4TG, will once again be active as J38RF between February 8th and March 8th. His primary interest is the Digital modes using a K-3 with a G5RV and phased vertical antennas. There may be some CW and SSB. QSL via his home callsign.

J3, GRENADA

Harry, AC8G, will once again be active as J37K between March 1-5th. Activity will include the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 3-4th) as a Single-Op/High-Power entry. QSL to AC8G, stateside direct with SASE. For others sending by the Bureau, please clearly mark for QSLs to go to AC8G. Also via LoTW (a week or so after the contest).

JD1, OGASAWARA

Koji, JI1LET, will once again be active as JI1LET/JD1 from **Chichijima Islands (AS-031)** between April 29th and May 5th. Activity will be on 80-6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via his home callsign.

JW, SVALBARD

Torkel, LA6VJA, will once again be active as JW6VJA from the JW5E club station in Longyearbyen on **Spitsbergen Island (EU-026)** for only 24 hours on February 11th. Activity will probably be on the low bands as it will be in the dark hours around the clock. QSL via LA6VJA, direct or by the Bureau. Also, he will upload his log to LoTW. For more details, visit:

<http://www.bitwrap.no/web/index.php?id=6>

KH6BZF PROPAGATION FORECAST/REPORT (January 16-22nd)

Jan/16th AN	Jan/19th AN	Jan/21st AN
Jan/17th AN	Jan/20th AN	Jan/22nd AN-HN
Jan/18th AN		

SOLAR REFERENCE KEYS/INDEXES AND GEOMAGNETIC REFERENCE

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NORMALITY Values	Alpha	GEOMAG	K
AN	- Above Normal	Quiet	K=0-1
HN	- High Normal	Unsettled	K=2
LN	- Low Normal	Active	K=3
BN	- Below Normal	Minor Storm	K=4
DIS	- Disturbed	Major Storm	K=5
VRY DIS	- Very Disturbed	Severe Storm	
K=6-9	100-400		

KP2, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

Yuriy, N2TTA, will be active as KP2MM during the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 18-19th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/ Low-Power entry. QSL via LoTW. For more details, see:

<http://www.wix.com/n2tta1/kp2mm>

P4, ARUBA

Helmut, DF7ZS, will be active from **Aruba (SA-036)** possibly as P40S from P40V's QTH between March 21-27th. Activity will include the CQ WPX SSB Contest (March 24-25th). QSL via DF7ZS.

PACIFIC TOUR (Changes To The HA Operation)

Laci, HA0HW, received the following press release from Pista, HA5AO [edited]: "HA South Pacific Tour 2012 - Press Release II - (For immediate release) -- We had two focuses on our announced January/February 2012 South Pacific DX Tour: T2 and T30 with possible operation from T33. We are regret to advise that we had to cancel the operation from T2 and T30. That was the bad news. The good one is that our new target is C2, Nauru.

The reasons of these very last minute changes, which are out of our control, are as follows:

1) We had to cancel the T30 as the flights from Fiji to Tarawa have been suspended since 12 September 2011, due to the air traffic dispute between Kiribati and Fiji. There is high risk to extend the flight disruption for an even longer period. After the consultation with the airlines and our consulate in Canberra, we were advised that 'there is high risk of not getting to Tarawa or not being able to leave

Tarawa for a long, undefined period of time. This situation does not affect the flights to Tuvalu and Nauru.' We were waiting until the very last minute hoping that the air traffic dispute between Fiji-Tarawa-Fiji will be solved, but the flights have not been restarted, yet.

2) The Tuvalu government declared a nation-wide state of emergency on 28 September 2011 due to critical shortages of drinking water. The state of emergency was declared after existing desalination plants broke, exacerbating an already dire situation. The water crisis is still serious on two of the worse affected islands, the capital island of Funafuti and Nukulaelae. The airlines still do not accept excess baggage at all, including hand luggages, because of the loads of drinking water containers by Red Cross. We could only check in less than a third of our technical stuff, resulting in significant and unreasonable limitation of the station set up. Due to this restriction we decided to cancel the T2HA Tuvalu operation, as well.

3) Due to the above detailed situation, we decided to change the target of our DXpedition to C2, Nauru. Operation is planned between 10th January and 6th February 2012 as C21HA with two stations on all HF bands. Log search and further info:

<http://ha5ao.novolab.hu>

It was the first time that we asked support and received contributions from DX Foundations, DX Organizations and individuals. We appreciate these supports very much. However, we will contact all organizations and individuals who supported us, and will pay the donations back if these changes would make them disappointed, despite the fact that Nauru is much better ranked on the most wanted DXCC list..... 73' Pista, HA5AO and George, HA5UK"

QSL INFO AND NEWS

QSL-INFO from DB0SDX (dated January 15th)

 3Z20WOS via SP5YOW DL/MD0VMD via MD0VMD OD5PY via KU9C
 4L4ZA via DJ1CW DL50LINDAU via DL1CBQ PJ4C via F9IE

4W0VB via UA4WHX DQ775BLN via
DL7PI TI2/AA8VL via AA8VL (*)
9A201A via 9A1A ED7IVN via EA7IVN
UA1ZEY/MM via RW6HS (d)
9A205K via 9A5K EK6TA via DJ0MCZ
(d) V5/DJ5AO via DJ5AO
9G1YK via PA3ERA FJ/SN2012WW via
SP9KRT V47GIW via W4GIW (L)
A65BP via UA6MF HK1T via EA5KB
VE2CSI via M0URX
DB50EFA via DL8DWL KT3Q/6 via DF8DX
ZF2ZE via NE8Z

(b) - Bureau only (L) - LoTW only

(d) - Direct only (*) - TI address and

eQSL

EK6LP ON LOTW. Peter, G3ZSS, reports: "If anyone needs a QSO confirmed on LoTW with EK6LP, then the secret is to send an E-mail to RN4LP with the QSO details. My QSOs were then quickly confirmed on LoTW (within 1 hour!). I wonder why he just does not post the whole log on LoTW, and only responds to individual requests???"

PLEASE HAVE PATIENCE

* **JX50 QSLs.** Stan, SQ8X, reported this past week about the delay of the JX50 QSL cards. He states, "In August 2011 I had been diagnosed a serious illness that put my life all upside-down. I really stopped counting how many times I've been to a hospital or clinic since then. I also had to put all things like my job, not to mention hobbies totally aside for a long while. Finally, after many months, I start to recover and feel slightly better and also finally got sometime to take care of things that really bother me because of the delay. One of them is JX50 QSL management, which I declare I'm still in charge of. I know that many DXers who worked us at Jan Mayen are really anxious about receiving the confirmation from JX50. Unfortunately, the reason of the delay has been really serious. And the only thing I ask for now is a little bit more patience. All OQRS requests and direct requests are secured and there is no need to re-send them or to worry that your card has been lost." To read Stan's full press release, go to:

<http://janmayen2011.org/jx50-important-update>

* **Paul, I1RBJ, informs OPDX readers**

[edited]: "I left France last November to recover in hospital in Italy for a very aggressive cancer. I went twice under surgery and I survived although I am now almost an invalid, but I thank God I'm still with Caterina, Sara, Luca and my old parents. It's a very hard to accept for a man like me always around but it's life and I must accept it.. I'll again be QRT for a long while for I must undergo chemio and radio therapies. All QSLs must go now to my Italian address (see QRZ) I'll do my best to send them quickly with the help of my father I1RB. All the best to my fellow DXers, hope to see you all again before too long.....Paul rbj"

**** OPDX and its readers hope for a quick recovery for both Stan/SQ8X and Paul/I1RBJ.**

QSL STATUS ON E51MAN AND E51NOU.

Bill, N7OU, reports: "The logs for E51MAN and E51NOU have been uploaded to LoTW. If you think there's an error, notify me by E-mail and I'll look into it. QSL cards for both callsigns are beginning to go out, but it may be 6-8 weeks before I'm caught up."

QSL RECEIVED VIA LoTW: 5B4AIF, AL9A, DP1POL, EI6IL, EI7M, FG5LA, HG6N, IO5O, IR1A, JA0FVU, JA1VND, OA1F, P49X, PA30BR, PY5ZD, S58N, SP3DOI, TO5G, VA7AM, VE5UA, XE2B, XU7ACY, ZK2V and ZS2EZ

QSLs RECEIVED VIA MAIL: 3D2R, 4L1MA, 5N7Q, 5Z4HW, 6Y3M, 7P8BA, 7Q7GM, 9G5MP, 9M6XRO, A25FC, A52VM, E51MAN, E51NOU, EL2LF, EL2WS, EX8MLE, FP/KV1J, HB9EHJ, HK4CZE, HR9/AI5P, J79WE, JW5AJA, MU/PA9M, PJ7NK, S9SS, TU2T, TY1KS, UA0MF, YJ0VK, YN2CC, ZD8ZZ, ZF2AH, ZK2V and ZS6EZ

QSLs RECEIVED VIA THE BUREAU: NONE REPORTED THIS WEEK!

SI9, SWEDEN (Special Event)

Special event station SI9AM from the King Chulalongkorn Memorial in Ragunda, Sweden, the largest Thai Pavilion in the world outside Thailand, will be active once again between January 25-30th. Operators will be Raf/ON5RZ, Dirk/ON7DS and Fons/ON4AWT.

The trio plan to be an entry in the UBA DX Contest (January 28-29th). Outside of the contest, activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and FM. Suggested frequencies are:

CW - 1817, 3517, 7017, 10117, 14017, 18077, 21017, 24897 and 28017 kHz

SSB - 1840, 3760, 7060, 14210, 18160, 21310, 24960 and 28510 kHz

FM - 145.550 MHz and repeater RV49 - 145.612.

QSL via SM3CVM, direct or by the Bureau. For more information, visit the SI9AM Web page at:

<http://www.si9am.se>

T6, AFGHANISTAN (Update)

Jørgen "Joe", 5Q2J/OZ2JBC, informs OPDX that he will be active as T6JP possibly late February. Joe is an electronic mechanic in the Danish Army. Activity will be on 160-10 meters depending on the conditions, mostly on RTTY, PSK and SSB with a Yaesu FT-857D (100W). QSL via 5Q2J. More details will be forthcoming.

TC2012, TURKEY (Special Event)

Members of the Special Wireless Activity Team (TCSWAT) and the Giresun Radio Amateurs and Nature Sports Club (GITRAD), in collaboration with Turkish Society of Nephrology-Istanbul Branch, will be on the air as TC2012WKD on March 8th. Activity is taking place on "World Kidney Day" to raise awareness of the importance of our kidneys to our overall health, and to reduce the frequency and impact of kidney disease and its associated health problems worldwide. Operations will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB, BPSK31 and SSTV. Stations making contacts on three or more bands or modes will receive a special award via E-mail. QSL via the TA Incoming QSL Bureau or via TCSWAT. Details about "World Kidney Day" is available at:

<http://www.worldkidneyday.org>

TF, ICELAND

Siggi, TF3CW, has announced that he will be active in the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 18-19th) as Single-Op/Single-Band entry. QSL via LX1NO.

TM70, FRANCE (Special Event)

Members of the French Army ARC will be active and using the special callsign TM70TRS during the major domestic and international contests throughout the year 2012. Activity is to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the French Army Signal Corps. Look for operations to also take place during French Army activities (like open doors and other meetings) and during the French "Coupe du REF" contests (both CW and SSB parts) on the last weekends of January and February. QSL via F6KHX.

V3, BELIZE

Art, NN7A, will once again be active as V31JZ/p, but this time from South Water Caye (NA-180) between January 27th and February 1st. Activity will be on 160-10 meters including the WARC bands and mostly CW using only 100 watts and wire antennas. There may be some SSB on the 20/15m IOTA frequencies, and if condition permit. Art will also be an entry in the CQ 160m Contest (January 27-29th). There will be no online log or skeds. QSL via NN7A, by the QSL Bureau or direct to: Art Phillips, P.O. Box 73, Eckert, CO 81418 USA. DO NOT QSL via the Belize QSL Bureau because there is no active V3 Bureau.

VK0, MACQUARIE ISLAND (VK0TH QRT??)

It seems Trevor, VK0TH, has had enough with the bad behavior during the pile-ups. Trevor, who is expected to stay on Macquarie until the end of April, states the following on QRZ.com (January 14th):

"VK0TH QRT - Operator behavior has become a problem

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

LAST MINUTE UPDATE (From QRZ.com, January 15th):

Trevor, VK0TH, writes, "Change to Operations - The vast majority of operators are excellent communicators, patient and polite however the minority have made operations over the last week almost impossible. The number of contacts made this week is less than half of last week due to QRM."

Effective immediately - No longer will I list real time frequency information on my QRZ.com page, and I will no longer self spot on the cluster when I have limited time available. I will make a habit of 'dropping' into nets and conversations more often and will QSY when operations become difficult. Again my apologies, I thought I could work through these huge pileups and bring order to the chaos. Those that haven't been involved in these sorts of pileups have all the solutions, splits, work by numbers and can't understand what is so difficult. I will post some audio samples of SSB and CW pileups and perhaps that will give you some idea."

VP2, MONTSERAT

Operators Norbert/DL2RNS, Olaf/DL7JOM and Rudi/DM2XO will be active as VP2MSN, VP2MOM and VP2MXO, respectively, from **Montserrat (NA-103)**, WLOTA 1475) between February 27th and March 10th. Activity will probably be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via their home callsigns.

VP5, TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

Operators Bill/N7OU, Bob/W7YAQ, Alan/K7AR and Rocky/NE7D will be active as VP5OU during the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 18-19th) as a Multi-Single/Low-Power entry. QSL via LoTW or via N7OU. The group will be on the island between February 15-22nd. Outside of the contest, they will be signing VP5/homecalls, operating on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY.

VP6, PITCAIRN ISLAND (Reminder/Update)

Just a reminder that the VP6T Dxpedition from Pitcairn Island (OC-044, CQ Zone 32) between January 20th and February 4th. This past week, the VP6T Web page reported on January 11th [edited]: "Since we got many requests asking for 6m operations, EME, SSTV, 60m, etc .. we would like to clarify the following:

We are a small team of 5 operators, and we were very limited in baggage weight and size, mainly on the Air Tahiti domestic flight. So we had to make choices. While most of us are 6m operators, we had decided to not spend much of our precious time and effort on this band.

No antenna will be taken for 6m, as well as no time slot is booked for 6m in our operation schedule (it will already be very hard to keep 3 HF stations running 24/7 with 5 operators).

On the other side, we are aware there is potentially an old 5 element Yagi 6m antenna (left by OH2BR probably). If time permits, we will try to locate it and if it is still in good shape after 12 years spent on the island, then we may install it and make some tests on 6m, using conventional modes (CW and/or SSB). In that case, it will be announced on this web site, or on air by the HF operators.

So to summarize, 6m operation from Pitcairn has not been on our agenda since the early planning stage, as well as all others bands/modes that are not specified on this web site. Thank you for your understanding."

The QSL Manager is Nigel, G3TXF. In addition to the usual routes (Direct QSLing, QSLing via the Bureau and E-mail requests for Bureau cards to "QSL at G3TXF dot com"), they will also be using the new "Online QSL Request Service (OQRS) provided by ClubLog." For more details and the suggested frequencies, visit the VP6T Web site at:

<http://www.vp6t.org>

XP2, GREENLAND

Henning, OZ1BII, will be active as XP2I from OX3KQ's QTH in Kangerlussuaq between February 24-29th. Activity will be on the "useable" HF bands mainly on CW. QSL via OZ1BII.

ZF, CAYMAN ISLANDS

Daryl, W7TAE, will be active as ZF2TE from Grand **Cayman Islands (NA-016)** between January 22-27th. Activity will be on 20-6 meters using mainly SSB with some CW. Operations will take place during his early mornings and afternoon hours. He will operate with 100 watts into a 1/2 wave vertical antenna. Daryl will also be active in the ARRL VHF Contest, 6 meters only on Sunday the 22nd. QSL via his home callsign.

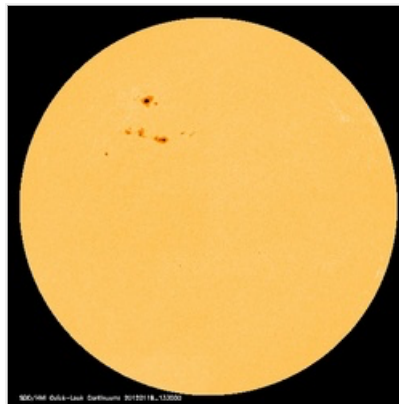
ZF, CAYMAN ISLANDS

Operators Paul/W3GQ and Paul/W3HGT will be active as ZF2GQ and ZF2GT, respectively, from **Grand Cayman (NA-016)** between February 4-11th. QSL via their home call signs. Both W3GQ and W3HGT state, "Log will be uploaded to LoTW upon return to USA. Direct QSL requests should include SASE and sufficient postage. Bureau card requests will be sent at no charge. eQSL by request only."

ZY78, BRAZIL (Special Event)

On February 2nd, the Liga de Amadores Brasileiros de Rádio Emissão-LABRE (Brazilian Amateur Radio League) will be celebrating their 78th anniversary. In commemoration of the event, look for special operations to take place between February 1-5th, on all bands and modes. Also, look for the National LABRE station to be active using the special call sign ZY78AA during and throughout the month of February. All QSOs will be confirmed with a beautiful commemorative QSL card. To receive directly (by mail), send a SAE + IRC or 2 USDs. QSL to all LABRE call signs via PT2AA.

ARRL Solar Update **Solar Update**



The Sun, as seen on Thursday, January 19, 2012 from [NASA's SOHO Extreme Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope](#). This [MDI \(Michelson Doppler Imager\)](#) image was taken in the continuum near the **Ni I 6768 Angstrom line. The most prominent features are the sunspots. This is very much how the Sun looks in the visible range of the spectrum.**

Tad
["Fooling me like the Sun in the winter"](#)

Cook, K7RA, reports: New sunspot groups appeared on every day over the past week. On January 12, new sunspot group 1396 appeared, and the next day two more -- 1397 and 1398 -- popped into view. On January 14, four new sunspot

groups appeared: 1399, 1400, 1401 and 1402. January 15 saw group 1391 vanish and new group 1403 emerge. Two more appeared January 16 -- 1404 and 1405 -- while 1397 vanished. On January 17, 1406 appeared and 1395 disappeared, while 1407 emerged on January 18. The average daily sunspot numbers rose this week, from 90.6 to 116.9, while the solar flux stayed about the same, changing from 134.9 to 133.4. The latest predictions have a solar flux of 150 on January 19-20, 155 on January 21-22, 160 on January 23-25, 155 on January 26, 140 on January 27-29, and 135 on January 30-February 6; we are still looking for a solar flux peak of 165 on February 17-21. The predicted flux values of 160 on January 23-25 are markedly higher than the 145 predicted last week for the same dates. The predicted planetary A index is 6, 8, 5, 8 and 12 on

January 19-23, and 5 on January 24 through the end of the month. Look for more information on the ARRL website on Friday, January 20. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the [ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page](#). This week's "Tad Cookism" is brought to you by Max Graham's [Sun in Winter](#)

UP-COMING CONTESTS (complete)

For the latest contest info. click on the following link:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

January 2012

+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 20
+ Feld Hell Sprint	1600Z-1800Z, Jan 21
+ North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Jan 21 to 0600Z, Jan 22
+ ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes	1900Z, Jan 21 to 0359Z, Jan 23

February 2012

+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Feb 3
+ Vermont QSO Party	0000Z, Feb 4 to 2400Z, Feb 5
+ 10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	0001Z, Feb 4 to 2359Z, Feb 5
+ Minnesota QSO Party	1400Z-2400Z, Feb 4
+ Delaware QSO Party	1700Z, Feb 4 to 0100Z, Feb 6
+ Mexico RTTY International Contest	1800Z, Feb 4 to 1759Z, Feb 5
+ North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 5
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Feb 10
+ CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 11 to 2400Z, Feb 12
+ New Hampshire QSO Party	1600Z, Feb 11 to 2200Z, Feb 12
+ FISTS Winter Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Feb 11
+ North American Sprint, SSB	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 12
+ ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Feb 13 to 2400Z, Feb 17
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Feb 17
+ ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 18 to 2400Z, Feb 19

+ Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2200Z, Feb 18
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Feb 20
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Feb 22
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Feb 24
+ CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 24 to 2159Z, Feb 26
+ North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 25 to 0600Z, Feb 26

March 2012

+ ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 3 to 2400Z, Mar 4
+ Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 10 to 1900Z, Mar 11
+ North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 11
+ SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Mar 11
+ Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 11 to 0100Z, Mar 12
+ BARTG HF RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 17 to 0200Z, Mar 19
+ Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 17 to 1200Z, Mar 18
+ Oklahoma QSO Party	1300Z, Mar 17 to 0100Z, Mar 18 and 1300Z-1900Z, Mar 18
+ Virginia QSO Party	1400Z, Mar 17 to 0200Z, Mar 18 and 1200Z-2400Z, Mar 18
+ AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1659Z, Mar 17 (144) and 1700Z-1759Z, Mar 17 (432)
+ Feld Hell Sprint	1600-1800 local, Mar 17
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Mar 19
+ CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 24 to 2400Z, Mar 25

The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER

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