

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, March 17th** at 12:00 noon.

Where: The March meeting of the Mother Lode DX / Contest Club will be at Mountain Mike's Pizza in Martell on March 17 at 11:30AM. Mountain Mike's is where the old Round Table Pizza was formerly located. It is in the Amador Plaza shopping center with SaveMart on Highway 88, just west of Highway 49. See the club's website at <http://www.mldxcc.org/> and click on "meetings" for a map and more information.

What: TBD

2012 Meeting Dates:

March 17th, Martell
April – No meeting
No December meeting.



MLDXCC FEBRUARY 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>

FROM THE PREZ

Mother LODE, LODE, LODE, LODE

I spelled it wrong again on my Cabrillo file for ARRL DX SSB. Fortunately, since I've done this so many times now, I had the sense to check it prior to clicking send. As the current club president, I do need to know how to spell our club name.

My goal for DX SSB was to do 500 Q's. My QTH is certainly capable of it. Didn't happen. Friday night, I came down with my once-every-four-year mega-cold and it did me in. It was all I could do to put on the headphones and force myself to make a few points in what I could best term as P-Poor conditions. I had 132 Q's and 76 mults in 2.5 hours of S&P operation. Stuck to 10, 15, and 20 meters and went to bed early.

The conditions really were not what they should be at this point in an 11 year sunspot cycle. Noise at my house was fairly high and everyone seemed weak.

As of today, March 10th, Mr. Sun has certainly been active this past week but the solar flux numbers are certainly nothing to get very excited about. Tuning around on 10 and 15 meters, I hear nothing but noise. 20 isn't much better. The "A" Index is expected to be fairly high over the next week, so it might be a good time to spray for weeds if it doesn't rain too much.

I remember my first experience with flares. It was in the late '80's. The bands were absolutely dead and I thought it was an antenna problem. I checked connectors at the tower and in the shack, tried another radio, and finally came to the realization that now I knew what serious coronal mass ejections could do to the bands.

It was also around that time that I saw my first aurora. We were living in El Dorado Hills at the time. The entire northern sky was red and, honest to God, I thought there was a major brush fire getting really close to the house. It was amazing!

I just checked the ClubLog rankings prior to writing this. We're not at the top of the heap, but number 2 will do for now. We still have some big numbers yet to be posted by our members. Remember, if your older logs are paper, just focus on inputting

your DXCC QSL's, rather than every Q on the paper log. That will save a lot of time.

Still working on the repeater project, so haven't done much with the HF station this past month. This Spring's HF project is to get the guy anchors in for the second tower. The location of this tower will be way down the hill from the first tower and it's pretty difficult to get any kind of serious equipment down there. A small backhoe is a possibility but I'll probably just finish what I have already started, which is hand-digging the holes. At last month's meeting, however, Rick [W6SR] suggested I punch some four foot holes with a post hole digger and sink 4 inch galvanized pipe in concrete, rather than pour the traditional concrete guy anchor. The more I think about this, the more sense it might make, since I have a number of fence posts to install this year around the vineyard. If I'm going to rent a post hole digger anyway, why not try it? You never know how far down you can go until you hit one of those rocks!

I'm off to the NCCC awards dinner on Monday. Let's hope I have some good news to report at our March 17th meeting. I'll see all of you in Martel on Saturday.

See you all at the next meeting!

de Bob,W1RH

FROM THE VP

None this month.

Dana Phillips, N6DW

February 2012 Treasurer's Report

Balance February 1, 2012 \$1578.85

Income:

Dues:N6DW,	
K6BEW, KG6OJ	45.00
Badge: N6DW	13.00

Correction – Dues previously paid

November 2011, W6DE,	
WC6H,AA6K	<u>60.00</u>

118.00

Expenses:

Arnolds for Awards	
2 name badges	25.74

W6SR for pick-up	
NCCC – CQP Plaque	<u>50.00</u>

75.74

Balance February 29, 2012 \$1621.11

**Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD,
Treasurer**

**Tube of the Month de Norm, N6JV
2C39**

During the late 1930s and through WWII, great advances were made with tubes that would operate into the UHF range. They were usually small receiving types with very short leads to cut down on inductance. In 1946,

Eimac produced a tube that didn't have leads, the 2C39. This tube was a "planar" triode in that its parts were stacked. The grid is a disk and the plate was placed very close to it. The original tube was glass insulated and rated at 25 watts up to 500 MHz.



Later versions were rated at 100 watts and 2.5 GHz+. They came with both glass and ceramic insulators. The military liked them for pulse operation so they were made with longer ceramic insulators to handle the high voltage. The most common use for them commercially was in 450 MHz 2-way radio. The first FCC type approved 2-way radios were Motorola

units that had two of the 2C39A tubes mounted in cavities. In later years, hams would remove the driver and final cavities and incorporate them in their 440 MHz ham gear. Surplus cavities with several tubes could be converted to 1296 operation with inputs of up to a KW. If you wanted to push the dissipation, the anode cooler could be removed and a small water jacket attached. Some military types were made with "pin" coolers that could be immersed in oil or hit with high air pressure in an aircraft. Many varieties of the 2C39(A) were produced by several companies and in many countries.



Currently there are 45 different type numbers or manufacturers in the Transmitting Tube Museum collection. The "oil can" tube is still in production today under the designation 7211 and many others.

<http://home.comcast.net/~n6jv/2c39.html>

Visit the museum at N6JV.com

Norm N6JV

Editor's Notes de Rick, W6SR

Hi All,

Not much radio activity since our last meeting, the solar flares have seen to that. I did play a bit (9.5 hours or so) in the ARRL DX Contest but I lost interest since conditions were disturbed all weekend.

Karen was gone for 10 days on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. She just got back last night (3/8) after a long flight home from Tel Aviv via New York to SFO. She had a great time, but noted that traveling in today's environment, to that part of the world, is a real grind.

DX? A few days ago I worked A52DX on 15M. Yeah he turned out to be a Slim, but ya' just WFWL and go on down the road.

At the urging of Dave, W6DE I purchased a new computer, it should be here by the 16th. Dave said my old computer was just too slow and didn't have enough memory power or speed for newer applications and the multi-tasking apps I want to run.

I have up-loaded my log, and the last contests, to ClubLog. The MLDXCC is has slipped to the #2 position, so I would urge ALL of you to post ALL your DX countries on Club Log. And if *Norm* (and a couple of other members) would just add their confirmed DXCC countries we might go at the top again.

One last note, the past week we lost a giant, ZL1AMO went SK. I don't know about you, but Ron gave me a lot of new ones and was, along with VK9NS, one of most active DXpeditioner's and contester's in the southern hemisphere.

Enough for now, see you all at the meeting on the 17th.....**de Rick, W6SR**

Member news/feedback/Announcements And Items For Sale

I have been off the air since last month and will be slowly returning this summer. We are getting a new house on the ranch which has required removing the 50 foot tower with the SteppIR and the 40/80 inverted vee I call the cloudwarmer.

The 106 foot tower with the MonstIR is mothballed for now and the 90 foot 80/160 meter vertical is being refurbished. The house previously used as a ham shack will be torn down and a new dedicated ham shack will be built farther back on the property near the towers. With 20 acres and lots of odds and ends, I could throw up antennas field day style, but I am too busy moving everything out of the radio house to build antennas or

operate them. The other houses on the property are too far away from the existing towers to use as ham shacks. I am planning to reinstall the 50 foot tower at the back of the property away from power lines. I will also put the cloudwarmer back up somewhere. The beverage array will have to be reorganized as well. I did take the opportunity while off the air to update my DXCC to 285 countries, an unimpressive total within this club, hi. I also qualified for 5BDXCC and am ready to apply for 5BWAS. I am planning to go to Visalia this year.

Rick N6RK

Below is a link to the May 12th *Gold Country Ham Swap* in Burson. http://www.volcano.net/~k6glh/html/gold_country_swap.html



After sweating out STOR and HK0NA, I finally make the HR thru the back door. Thanks for the news Ken

The HK0NA web site has pictures of the NJ Club members opening mountains of QSL cards. They look like they are dedicated to answering every QSL, licking every stamp and every envelope...then try Lotw. CU Sat.

Ray, ND6S

Hi guys, we had a good time in the ARRL DX SSB test. There are the three high scores for single band 15 meters (including us). Looks like a real horse race with PR5B!

Aloha, Fred KH7Y

My tenure as "Supreme Being" of the low power world has been terminated. Last week I received a certificate for the 2011 ARRL Int DX Contest that reads "Single Operator, Low Power Phone, First Place San Joaquin Valley"

Do not assume that DX conditions always correlate to propagation forecasts based upon solar observation. The large CME which occurred about 00:30Z on 7 March (or 16:30PST on 6 March) resulted in predictions of DX conditions deteriorating for the rest of the week. Things were quite dismal on Wednesday but I gave a listen on Thursday and conditions seemed to be as good as I've heard this year. In the space of 3 hours I managed to snag the 3C0E Annobon Island group on 15 SSB, 17 CW, and 20 SSB. The moral of this tale is that you should always listen for yourself to determine DX conditions.

73 de AA6K, Shirl

Meeting Minutes, 25 February 2012.

President Bob, W1RH, called the meeting to order at 12:15 PM at Mountain Mike's Pizza, Martell, CA, with 16 members present.

QSTs. Bob, W1RH, read a notice printed in the July 1940 issue of Radio Magazine, brought by Norm, N6JV, detailing "The Demise of DX", canceling communications between all US and foreign radio stations due to the on-going WWII activities. This communiqué did not affect communications within the US and its territories. Brandt, K6BEW, passed around a certified copy of a radio message announcing the attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941.

Officers' Roll Call. Present were Bob, President; Dana, N6DW, Vice President; Carolyn, K6TKD, Treasurer; Kay, K6KO, Secretary; Shirl, AA6K, Director; Ray, ND6S, Director; Rick, W6SR, Newsletter Editor; and Norm, N6JV, Webmaster.

Secretary's Minutes and Treasurer's Report. The 28 January Secretary's minutes and Treasurer's report were approved as they appeared in the February Nugget newsletter.

Recognition of Achievements. Congratulations to the following: Dana, N6DW, has his WAS on Digital/CW/Phone; P40K (K6TA/K6KO) placed 2nd World in the December ARRL RTTY contest; Rich, WC6H, received a plaque for 1st Place, HP, Pac. Div., ARRL DX; Norm, N6JV, placed 1st World, Single Op/Assisted,

HP CW, ARRL DX; Shirl, AA6K, confirmed 5-Band DXCC; and Ray, ND6S, is now on the DXCC Honor Roll with the deletion of the R1M entity.

OLD BUSINESS

Letter to the NCCC. Bob, W1RH, reported that the letter to the NCCC thanking them for the plaque presented to MLDXCC for 1st Place, California QSO party was mailed. An additional letter to the NCCC regarding the July joint meeting has elicited no response as yet; a second letter will be sent.

Future Meeting Dates and Venues. The 17 March meeting will be held at Mountain Mike's Pizza, in the Amador Plaza Center, between SaveMart and Big 5 Sporting Goods, in Martell. No April meeting will be held as most members will be attending the International DX Convention in Visalia. Dana, N6DW, will research locations in the Roseville area for the upcoming 19 May meeting. Bob, W1RH, will research the possibility of holding the 16 June meeting at Wimpie's in Walnut Grove.

Future Meeting Presentations. Members were in favor of viewing some of the older videos of past DX-peditions in the NCDXF library, possibly for the March and May meetings. Rick, W6SR, and Norm, N6JV, offered to work up a presentation on antenna design, and if the 16 June meeting can be arranged as tentatively planned, the presentation will be a tour of the towers in Walnut Grove.

Membership and Dues. It was once again confirmed that dues will be voluntary for 2012, with further discussion later in the year for 2013 dues. Dana, N6DW, is working on a comprehensive membership listing, showing the names and calls of previous years' members, and suggested using ClubLog as a tool in coming up with nominations for an MLDXCC "DXer of the Year" award. Arnold's, our badge supplier, could do the awards to our specifications; he will research.

MLDXCC Website. Norm, N6JV, reported that the upload problem on the website had been resolved. The password files had been temporarily "lost" on the server; all is now well.

NEW BUSINESS

MLDXCC/REDXA Joint Meeting. Bob, W1RH, will contact REDXA regarding the possibility of a joint meeting.

MLDXCC Contest Participation. Members present agreed to support the ARRL DX SSB contest on 3-4 March. All participants should e-mail their scores to Norm, N6JV, so that they may be placed on the website. Upcoming contests that may be interesting to enter included the Russian DX contests and the IARU competition.

Program Presentation. This month's presentation was the NCDXF video on the STOR DX-pedition to the new DXCC entity, South Sudan.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 13:15.

List of those present.

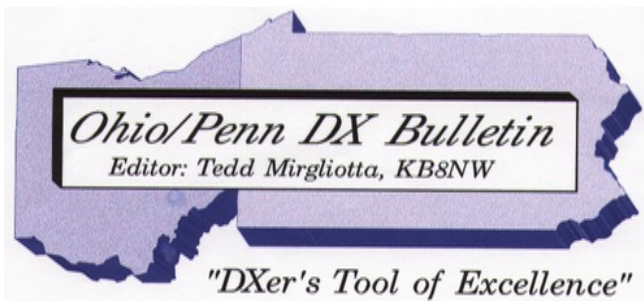
CALL	NAME	QTH	MLDXCC	NCCC
K6KO	KAY	PINE GROVE	X	X
K6TA	KEN	PINE GROVE	X	X
W6SR	RICK	PLACERVILLE	X	X
W6CH	RICH	VALLEY SPRINGS	X	X
N6JV	NORM	SACRAMENTO	X	X
W6RFF	JETTIE	ROSEVILLE	X	X
N6DW	DANA	GRANITE BAY	X	X
W6DE	DAVE	PLACERVILLE	X	X
K6TKD	CAROLYN	OMO RANCH	X	X
K6LRN	DICK	OMO RANCH	X	X
AA6K	SHIRL	STOCKTON	X	X
K6TKD	CAROLYN	OMO RANCH	X	X
W1RH	BOB	LOTUS	X	X
ND6S	RAY	SUTTER CREEK	X	X
KG6OJV	GEORGE	VALLEY SPRINGS	X	X
KG6PRX	ED	MOUNTAIN HOUSE	X	
K6BEW	BRANT	JACKSON	X	X

**Meeting Minutes,
Kay Anderson, K6KO, Secretary**

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

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

UP-COMING DX and Dxpeditions
Click the link below to display upcoming Announced DXpeditions:
<http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>



OPDX Bulletin 1053 March 12, 2012

The Ohio/Penn Dx PacketCluster

DX Bulletin No. 1053

BID: \$OPDX.1053

March 12, 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, NC1L, NJ1Q & ARRL DX, NG3K & ADXO, W3UR & The Daily DX, N4AA & QRZ DX, KH6BZF, N7UN, K8YSE, NL8F, W8GEX & 60m News, 9M2TO, AT International, DK8JB & The DX News Letter, DL1SBF, DL2VFR, DxCoffee.com, DX-World.Net, EI7CC, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, I1JQJ/ IK1ADH & 425 DX News, IK7JWY, IZ8BGY, JG7PSJ, JI5RPT, LY5W, OZ6OM & 50 MHz DX News, PY2WAS, Pete's DX-Newsdesk, PY2YP, RSGB IOTA Web Site, VA3RJ & ICPO, VHF-DX-Portal, VU2CDP and YT3W for the following DX information.

DXCC COUNTRY/ENTITY REPORT

According to the AR-Cluster Network for the week of Sunday, 4th-March, through Sunday, 11th-March there were 220 countries active. Countries available: 3A, 3B8, 3C0, 3D2, 3DA, 3W, 4J, 4L, 4O, 4S, 4X, 5B, 5H, 5N, 5R, 5X, 6W, 6Y, 7P, 7Q, 7X, 8P, 8R, 9A, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9M2, 9M6, 9N, 9Q, 9V, 9Y, A2, A3, A4, A5, A6, A7, A9, AP, BV, BY, C2, C3, C5, C6, CE, CE9, CM, CN, CP, CT, CT3, CU, CX, D2, DL, DU, E5/s, E7, EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, EI, EK, EL, ER,

ES, ET, EU, EX, EY, F, FG, FK, FM, FO, FR, FW, FY, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU, GW, HA, HB, HB0, HC, HI, HK, HL, HP, HR, HS, HZ, I, IS, J2, J3, J5, J6, J7, J8, JA, JD/o, JT, JW, JX, JY, K, KG4, KH0, KH2, KH6, KL, KP2, KP4, LA, LU, LX, LY, LZ, OA, OD, OE, OH, OH0, OJ0, OK, OM, ON, OX, OY, OZ, P2, P4, PA, PJ2, PJ4, PJ5, PJ7, PY, PZ, R1FJ, S2, S5, SM, SP, ST, SU, SV, SV5, SV9, T32, T7, T8, TA, TF, TG, TI, TJ, TK, TL, TN, TR, TT, UA, UA2, UA9, UK, UN, UR, V2, V3, V4, V5, V7, V8, VE, VK, VK0M, VP2E, VP2M, VP2V, VP5, VP8, VP8/h, VP9, VQ9, VR, VU, XE, XU, XW, YA, YB, YI, YL, YN, YO, YS, YU, YV, Z2, Z3, ZA, ZB, ZD7, ZD8, ZF, ZL, ZL7, 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).

2M, SCOTLAND (Satellite Op)

Paul, 2E1EUB, will once again be active as 2M1EUB for 7 days beginning March 24th. Activity will be from the eastern side of Scotland in the Cairngorms National Park (WFF GMFF-001). Activity will be on 160m, 80m, and the satellites (mostly AO-7 B/A mode), as well as 2m SSB. Check out QRZ.com under 2M1EUB for more info.

3C0, ANNOBON ISLAND (Update)

By the time you read this, operators Elmo/EA5BYP and Javier/EA5KM should be going QRT as 3C0E from Annobon Island (**AF-039; Pagalu**). QSL 3C0E (as well as 3C6A) via EA5BYP: Elmo Bernabé Coll, P.O.Box 3097, 03080 Alicante, Spain. For more details and updates, watch the Web page at:

<http://www.gdgdxc.net/3c0e/index.php>

5Z, KENYA

Sig, NV7E/ZS6SIG, who has relocated from Pretoria, South Africa, to Nairobi, Kenya, is signing 5Z4EE for about the next three years. Sig announced this past week that he will once again be active in the following contests this year:

CQWW DX RTTY Contest (September 29-30th) as a SOABHP entry

CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 27-28th) as a SOABHP entry

CQWW DX CW Contest (November 24-25th) as a SOABHP entry

Activity (as usual) outside of the contests will be on all bands 160-10 meters. QSL via NV7E or at the address shown for 5Z4EE on QRZ.com.

7P, LESOTHO

Peter, EI7CC, will once again be active as 7P8PB from Lesotho between March 15th and April 3rd. Activity will be limited because he will be on a family holiday and will operate when circumstances permit. QSL via EI7CC, by the Bureau or direct. Logs will be uploaded to LoTW immediately upon his return to Ireland. If possible, Peter may try to upload them while in Lesotho.

9M0, SPRATLY (Update)

Members of the Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter Society (MARTS) and the 9M4SDX Team will be active as 9M0L from Pulau Layang Layang Island (Swallow Reefs - AS-051) near Sabah, East Malaysia, between April 10-24th. The current team consists of Tex-san/9M2TO (Project Coordinator), Neoh/9M2CLN (Team Leader Malaysia), Tack-san/JE1CKA (Team Leader Japan), Hajime/7K4QOK, Takuto/9M2/JE1SCJ, David/9M2PX, Yasuma/9M8YY, Nigel/G3TXF, Joe/JA1LZR, Miyama/JE1KUC, Naoyuki/JK1FNL, Hiroyuki/JP1TRJ and Yutaka/JQ2GYU. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. They will try to have as many RTTY QSOs with NA/SA as much as possible. The team will have 4 stations using Spider Beams and a Layang Special. Suggested frequencies are:

CW - 1811, 3511, 7011, 10121, 14011, 18071, 21011, 24891 and 28011 kHz

SSB - 3791, 7081, 14160, 18130, 21275, 24940 and 28405 kHz

RTTY - 3521, 7031, 10141, 14081, 18101, 21081, 24921 and 28081 kHz

6m - 50101/CW and 50110/SSB

Special Notes:

1. All frequencies are 9M0L transmitting frequency. They will announce listening Frequency when QRV.

2. 80m RTTY: They will listen 3590 and up for EU.

3. 40m SSB: They will announce listen up 7100 for US.

QSL direct to 9M2TO: 9M0L TEAM PENANG, PO BOX 125 GPO 10710, Penang Island, MALAYSIA or by the Bureau to Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter's Society (MARTS). A Web page is up and running at:

<http://9m01.legendchew.com>

9Q, DEM. REP. OF CONGO

Sergiy, UV5EVJ (ex-5X1VJ), is currently active from Lubumbashi using the Amateur Radio Association of the Democratic Republic of Congo's (ARAC) club callsign as 9Q0HQ/7. Activity has been on 80-10 meters using CW and SSB. He is expected to be there through the end of March. Sergey is part of the UN mission MONUSCO. QSL via UV5EVJ.

CN, MOROCCO

Florent, F4CYZ, (MDXC Member #141) is now active as CN2YZ from Morocco until the end of year. His activity from this African country will be from Tangier and especially on the weekends. The Mediterraneo DX Club is supporting his activities and is also providing a Web site (with a log-check included) at:

<http://www.mdxc.org/cn2yz>

CQ3/CT3, MADEIRA ISLANDS

Operators Walter/DJ6QT, Uwe/DL8OBF, Alex/RA1AGL, YL Elena/RC5A, Alex/RM2M, Paul/RN3A, Sergey/UA1ANA and Gennady/UA9MA will be active as CQ3L during the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 24-25th) as a Multi-2 entry. QSL via DJ6QT. Look for operators to be active before the contest between March 11-26th, as CT3/homecall. QSL via Bureau. Visit the CR3L Santana, Madeira Island (AF-014), Web page at:

<http://www.cq3l.de>

D6, COMOROS

A D64K DXpedition is in the works and details will be forthcoming. QSL via IZ7KHR. Watch the following for updates:

<http://www.d64k.com>
<https://twitter.com/#!/D64K>

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME (DST)

Did you remember to move your clock ahead one hour for Daylight Saving Time (DST)?

DXCC NEWS

Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL Awards Branch Manager, reports that the following operations are approved for DXCC credit:

600M - Somalia; 2011 Operation

9U3TMM - Burundi; Reported as December 2011 and January 2012

AX/VK0TH - (as well as VK0TH) Macquarie Island; Current operation

T6BP - Afghanistan; Current operation commenting in 2011

If you had this operation rejected in a recent application, send a note to bmoore@arrl.org to have your record updated. Note, due to extremely heavy E-mail, DXCC may not respond to your message. Once updated, this will be reflected in your LoTW account and/or in the live, daily DXCC standings on the website.

www.arrl.org/dxcc

EE8, CANARY ISLANDS

Luis, EA8AY, will be active as EE8X from **Tenerife Island** (IOTA **AF-004**, DIE S-012, WLOTA 1276, EAA TF) during the CQWW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Single-Op/All-band entry. QSL via W2GR. Visit his Web site at:

<http://www.ea8ay.com/ef8x>

EF8, CANARY ISLANDS (Update)

Jaime, WP3A, will be active as EF8C from **Tenerife Island** (**AF-004**, DIE S-012, WLOTA 1276, EAA TF) during the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 24-25th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/Low-Power entry. QSL via EB7DX (not

NP3O as first announced). Look for more info on:

<http://kp2b.net>

FR, REUNION ISLAND

Michael, DF8AN, will be active as FR/DF8AN from **Reunion Island** (**AF-016**) between September 2-10th. Activity will be mainly on CW on all bands including 6 meters with just 100 watts into a long wire. QSL via DF8AN, direct or by the Bureau.

FW, WALLIS AND FUTUNA ISLANDS

Patrice, F1GHY, is now currently active as FW/F1GHY from **Wallis Island** (**OC-054**), but the length of his stay is unknown at this time. Activity has been on 20 meters SSB using 100 watts into a long wire antenna. QSL via his home callsign.

H40, TEMOTU PROVINCE

Looks like Sigi, DK9FN, will once again return to Temotu Province for a fourth time and be active as H40FN between (approx.) December 22nd and January 7th (2013). QSL H40FN via HA8DD. More details will be forthcoming.

HI, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Luis, HI8LAM, from Santo Domingo will be active during the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 24-25th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/Low-Power entry. QSL via direct to his home callsign.

HU0, EL SALVADOR

Members of the Club de Radio Aficionados de El Salvador will be active as HU0A during the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 24-25th) as a Multi-Single entry. Operators mentioned are Mario/YS1GMV, Mario/YS1MAE, Jose/YS1MS, Roberto/YS1RS, Florencio/YS1ZC, Federico/YS1FEA and Francisco/YS1FAF. QSL via YS1GMV.

INTERNATIONAL GOOD WILL

Yuri, UT1FG, who has been active as UT1FG/MM and sailing from port to port operating on the satellites and 6 meters to activate wet Grid Squares, has left from a port in

Nicaragua a few days ago. However, Yuri's 12 volt power supply that runs his IC-706 has failed and could not be fixed. John, K8YSE, informs OPDX, "This prompted an effort to find a way to replace that power supply and insure continued operations as he sails up to Montreal, Canada. The solution was eventually found and thanks to the efforts of Captain Manolis Joannou, HP1CQ, Yuri continues to operate. An abbreviated version of the story of 'International Good Will' and extreme determination to succeed is now posted on my Web site. This hobby is more than just operating and making contacts." For the rest of the story, please visit John's Web page at:

<http://www.papays.com/sat> [Click on the UT1FG/MM Panama link]

IOTA NEWS

AS-061/

AS-092. "DX-World.net" is reporting: "Tentative plans by Russian Robinson Club members to activate **Big Diomed (Ratmanova - AS-061)** and one of the islands in the **Bering Sea Coast South group (AS-092)** are underway. Activity is scheduled for the end of July/early August 2012. Big Diomed Island was last activated in early 1990's."

AS-175. (Update/Change) NEW IOTA! Look for an Indian team to be active using the callsign AT2DW (not ATBDW as announced) from **Bet Dwarka Island** (Bet Shankhodar) between March 16-23rd. This island is in the Gujerat State West IOTA Group and has never been activated before. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. The team plans to be active with 2 stations with the possibility of a 3rd station, and will use vertical antennas. Operators mentioned are YL Sarla/ VU2SWS (Group Leader), Mickey/VU2IZO, Nandu/VU2NKS, Deepak/ VU2CDP, Basappa/VU2NXM, Laxman/VU2LX and Ajoy/VU2JHM. QSL via VU2SWS, direct or by the Bureau. There will be an OQRS available on the ClubLog. Logs will be uploaded to LoTW within 1 month. A Web page is now online with more details and an online log at:

<http://www.dxcoffee.com/at2dw>

EU-042. A German team of operators will be active as DM50IOTA from **Hallig Langeness** between March 16-18th. Activity will be on CW, SSB and PSK, and on all HF bands and on VHF. The "Hallig Langeness" is situated in the "Wadden Sea" (North Sea) and counts also for WFF DLFF-013 and for the German Islands Award N-19. QSL preferred by the Bureau. **ADDED NOTE:** DM50IOTA will activate all German IOTA groups during the IOTA 50th Anniversary Marathon (2012/2013). If you have worked DM50IOTA from all German IOTAs you can apply by sending an E-mail for a special award (pdf-style, will be sent by E-mail free of charge in 2013).

EU-054. Operators Raffaello/IT9ATF, Renato/IT9NPR, Pippo/IT9PPG, and Pino/IT9WDC will be active as IF9A from **Favignana Island** (IIA TP-011, MIA MI-025, WLOTA LH-1545) for the CQWW WPX SSB Contest as (March 24-25th) as a Multi-Single entry. Activity will be on all bands and modes outside of the contest. QSL via IT9ATF, direct or by the Bureau.

NA-057. By the time you read this, Michael, DF8AN, will be active as HR9/DF8AN from two islands in the **Bahia Islands** IOTA Group between now and March 26th. He plans to activate Roatan Island and Utila Island. Activity will be mainly on CW on all bands including 6 meters with just 100 watts into a long wire. QSL via DF8AN, direct or by the Bureau.

OC-066. Hiro, JI1JKW, will be active as FO/JI1JKW from **Rangiroa Island**, French Polynesia, between March 18-22nd. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL via his home callsign.

OC-185. Craig, VK8AS, will be active as VK8BI from **Bremer Island** between April 18-23rd. Activity will be on 20/17/15/12/10 meters running 400 watts into a Spiderbeam yagi. Operation will be SSB only. However, he does have the capability of running PSK31/RTTY at rare moments. Craig states, "OC-185 was last

activated in 2004 for two days and prior to that in 1999 and is only claimed by 20% of IOTA program participants. A strong focus will be on North America and Europe. Full operation details are available at QRZ.com which gives details of the blog site that outlines best operating times to different regions of the world."

OC-199. It was announced earlier in the week that Wally, VK6YS, would activate **West Lewis Island** between March 8-10th. However, this operation was postponed. No other details were provided.

JD1, OGASAWARA

Harry, JG7PSJ, will be active again as JD1BMH from **Chichijima Island (AS-031)** between April 22nd and May 4th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via the Bureau to JD1BMH or direct to JG7PSJ. Visit his Web page for more details at:

<http://sapphire.es.tohoku.ac.jp/jd1bmh>

JD1, OGASAWARA

Makoto, JI5RPT, will once again be active as JD1BLY from **Chichijima Island (AS-031)**, Ogasawara, between April 29th and May 5th. Activity will be on 80-6 meters, including the satellites, using CW, SSB and the Digital modes (NO 6m EME). QSL via his home callsign JI5RPT.

His log search will be available on his Web site at:

<http://www.ji5rpt.com/jd1>

He will also use Twitter to inform his real-time activities at:

<http://twitter.com/jd1bly>

JD1, OGASAWARA

Operators JD1BLC and JD1YBT will be active from Ogasawara between April 29th and May 5th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL both callsigns via JP1IOF.

KH6BZF PROPAGATION FORECAST/REPORT (March 12-18th)

Mar/12th	AN	Mar/15th	AN	Mar/17th	AN-HN
Mar/13th	AN	Mar/16th	AN	Mar/18th	HN
Mar/14th	AN				

SOLAR REFERENCE KEYS/INDEXES AND GEOMAGNETIC REFERENCE

NORMALITY	GEOMAG	K Values
Alpha		
AN - Above Normal	Quiet	K=0-1
0-7		
HN - High Normal	Unsettled	K=2
8-15		
LN - Low Normal	Active	K=3
16-29		
BN - Below Normal	Minor Storm	K=4
30-49		
DIS - Disturbed	Major Storm	K=5
50-99		
VRV DIS - Very Disturbed	Severe Storm	K=6-9
100-400		

KH9, WAKE ISLAND

Coin, WA2YUN, is currently active as KH9/WA2YUN from **Wake Island (OC-053)** and will be active another year or more. Activity is on the HF bands including 160/80m. He has also been active on 6 meters. QSL via K2PF.

LY22, LITHUANIA (Attn. Prefix Hunters!)

Jonas, LY5A, will be on the air with the new all time prefix using the callsign LY22A between March 11th and April 11th. Activity is to celebrate the 22nd anniversary of "The Act of the Re-Establishment of the State of Lithuania". QSL via LY5A. Contacts are good for the LY WPX Award and Baltic States WPX Award.

PACIFIC TOUR (Preparing for Conway Reef)

In preparation of the upcoming DXpedition to Conway Reef (3D2/C) in September, Hrane, YT1AD, will be in the Pacific during April, and plans to activate Rotuma, Fiji, Samoa and American Samoa. The following are the tentative dates:

- April 7-9th** - Callsign KH8/N9YU from Pago Pago, American Samoa, and from AH8LG QTH
- April 9-11th** - Callsign 5W7A from Apia, Samoa
- April 13-20th** - Callsign 3D2R from Rotuma *

* Hrane's last destination on his trip is to visit the Island of Rotuma with Tevita Rokobaro, 3D2TR, from the Fiji Ministry of Tourism and

Communications. During this visit they will visit the students at the Rotuma High School (at the 3D2RI radio club station) and help install the new donations (antenna rotor donated by K6MKF and an HF LPA 500W, donated by YT1AD).

PY0S, ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL ROCKS (DXCC Entity To Become Rarer!)

Already ranked 16th, on the "DX Magazine's Most Needed Countries World- Wide List", it was announced this past week that amateur radio DXpedition is now prohibited from the archipelago of Saint Peter and Saint Paul Rocks (PY0S). The prohibition is published on the Web site of SERCIM

<http://www.mar.mil.br/secirm/proarq.htm>

- Secretariat of the Inter- ministerial Commission for Sea Resources that coordinates and controls the "Program Archipelago of Saint Peter and Saint Paul". Members of the Federal LABRE DX and some groups in Brazil have shown a true outrage on Social Networks on the Internet. There is already a great mobilization on the part of Amateur Radio with the Brazilian Federal Senators and Representatives to try to reverse the decision to ban DXpedition to PY0S. The biggest concern among hams is that this decision could open a precedent for restrictions on other entities in Brazil as in other parts of the world. For more details, visit the following Web page:

<http://www.teresinadxgroup.com/?p=475>

QSL INFO AND NEWS

QSL-INFO from DB0SDX (dated March 4th and 11th)

 3Z10ITA via SQ9NIS GI5K via G3SWH
 ON35WR via ON7WR 4J0LH via 4J5T
 HB0/HB9GR via HB9GR P4/WA2NHA via WA2NHA
 4M5W via IT9DAA (d) II0IDR via IZ0FVD
 PI4MRC via PF9A 4S7BRG via LZ3HI
 II0IGU via IZ0EGC PR2X via PY2ADR
 5B8AD via W3HNC II3ICZ via IW3IE
 PT5T via K3IRV 6Y1V via OH3RB
 II5IDK via IQ5LI SN9Y via SP9UOP
 8P5A via NN1N II9IGA via IT9YEM
 SO4M via SP4MPG 9A5PC via NF4A
 II9P via IT9CHU T6JP via OZ2JBC

9A55AX via 9A4J IR8R via IK8HCG
 TA1C/2 via TA1C 9A200Z via 9A0Z
 JH1TEB/BY1RX via JH1TEB TI5/AJ3G via AJ3G
 9M2IDJ via JA6IDJ K6AAX/VY2 via K6AAX
 TI5/K1DG via K1DG CT7/OK4PA via OK4PA
 KH6/VE7AHA via VE7AHA TI5/KG5VK via KG5VK
 CT9/DJ0IF via DJ0IF KH7X via K2PF
 TI5/WA4PGM via WA4PGM CW5W via CX6VM
 KP2M via AI4U TI5/WK4Y via WK4Y
 DL/SP5ES via SP5ES LP1H via EA5KB
 TI8M via TI2KAC DP775BLN via DL7AUB
 LR9D via LU9ESD TO5A via F5VHJ
 DQ125HSB via DF7AA LS1D via LW9EOC
 TP8CE via F5LGF E7DX via E77E
 LT1F via AC7DX TT8ES via IK3GES
 EA5/DO1PGA via DO1PGA LZ0M via LZ2SX (L)
 U4MIR via RN3DK EA5/G3XGS via G3XGS
 LZ134GO via LZ1KZA V21ZG via DL7AFS
 EA5/LZ2MAM via LZ1PM N6WIN/VP9 via N6WIN
 V26M via W3HNC
 EA5/YO4RFV via YO4RFV NG7M/HI3 via NG7M
 V73/KJ6BBP via KJ6BBP (d)
 EE3J via EA3JW NG7M/HI9 via NG7M
 VP9I via N1HRA
 EE7E via EA7RU NH0S/KH2 via JF2SKV
 XP1A via OZ1ACB
 EX8VZ via RW6HS (d) NP2/AA4VK via AA4VK
 XV4Y via OK1DOT (d)
 FG4NN via NI5DX OF150M via OH8DR
 YP3A via YO3ND
 FG4NO via F4AVX OK5Z via OK2ZI
 Z21DKJ via EA4DKJ

ZD7XF via G3TXX

(d) - Direct Only

(L) - LoTW Only

NEW QSL ROUTE. Tim, NL8F, informs OPDX that Ted, K8NA, will be his QSL Manager for his upcoming **CE0Y/NL8F** Easter Island operation this month. He is still waiting for confirmation of a possible **CE0Y** callsign.

PR2I LOGS. QSL Manager Fred, IK7JWX, reports that the logs for the recent IOTA operations from **SA-024** and **SA-071** are online at:

<http://www.i81wl.it>

He will accept the QSOs data (with the IOTA refer.) via E-mail at ik7jwx2003@yahoo.it and will send the QSLs via the Bureau. For QSLs via direct, please send a SASE to his address on [QRZ.com](http://www.qrz.com).

QSL RECEIVED VIA LoTW: 5P12EU, AL7L, C6ANM, E76C, EF8R, EP3PK, FM/R5GA, FP/M0VFC, EI80IRTS, HL5KY, MI0M, MI0SAI, PJ2T, SV8IIR, T96C, TG7/NC2N, US6EX, V25WY, YU1FW, ZD7XF, ZD8O and ZP6CW

QSLs RECEIVED VIA MAIL: 3D2R, 4O3A, 9X0PY, CO8LY, E51CG, FP/W6HGF, KG4AS, KP2M, MU/PA9M, PJ7I, ST2AR, T32C, V31RI, V63KZ, ZP5DBC and ZY1A

QSLs RECEIVED VIA THE BUREAU: OA1F and OJ0X

S7, SEYCHELLES (Update/Reminder)

Just a reminder that operators Tom/DL5NEN and XYL Claudia/DO5NEN will be active as S79NEN from Mahe (AF-024) and **La Digue Islands (AF-024)** between March 12-28th. They are calling this a "Honeymoon Dxpedition". Activity will be on 40-6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. Also, look for activity to be in the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 24-25th) and the BARTG HF RTTY Contest (March 17-19th). QSL via DO5NEN. PLEASE NOTE: All donations will be transferred one by one to:

<http://www.unicef.org>

They state, "Please help us. DX for kids." There is a donate button on their [QRZ.com](http://www.qrz.com) page, as well as a ClubLog log search.

SILENT KEY

The DX community has lost a legendary Pacific DXer and DXpeditioner on March 6th. Well-known DXer **Ron Wright, ZL1AMO**, became a "Silent Key" (SK) at the age of 75. Word went out last week that Ron was admitted to the hospital because of a collapsed lung but recovered in stable condition and remained in the hospital until his passing. Many DXers may remember Ron from all of his DXpeditions in the Pacific; some he visited more than once. Your editor and the members of NODXA will remember Ron when he attended a club meeting in the 80's and showed the club a slide show on his DXpedition to Kermadec Island. NODXA has also presented Ron with a "Lifetime Achievement". OPDX and its readers would like to send out our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of ZL1AMO. His CW signal will be missed by many.

Read Ron Wright's obituary from the New Zealand Herald and sign the guest book at:

<http://notices.nzherald.co.nz/obituaries/nzherald-nz/obituary.aspx?n=ronald-walter-wright&pid=156341245>

SV5, DODECANESE

Jeff, N6GQ, will be active as SV5/N6GQ from the beach during the CQWW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/QRP entry. He will use a wire antenna. QSL via N6GQ.

T30, WESTERN KIRIBATI (Press Release #1)

The following was received by Alex, PY2WAS, dated March 6th [edited]: "We proudly announce a DXpedition to **Tarawa Island (OC-017)**, Western Kiribati, between October 16-25th, 2012, when two callsigns will be used: T30PY for operations between 160-10m, and T30SIX to be used on 6m. It is expected to have 3 stations running simultaneously on HF and one on six meters. The following modes will be used: SSB, CW and RTTY. EME on six meters may be possible, but not yet confirmed. The team, at this time, is formed by the following Brazilian ham ops: Orlando/PT2OP, Rick/PY2PT, Fred/PY2XB, Alex/PY2WAS, Fernando/PY4BZ, Jim/PY7XC, Ciro/PY7ZY, Miguel/PY3MM and Marcelo/PY1KN.

The DXpedition Web site will be launched in a couple of days at

<http://www.mcdx.org/t30py>

to be supported by the Mediterraneo DX Club. Considering the high cost of logistics, donations are welcome to help the team to support all related costs. There will be a donation button on the site, for which the donor may click and use Paypal to accomplish it.....

73, T30PY/T30SIX Team"

T6, AFGHANISTAN

Eric, K9GY, will be active as T6MO from the Helmand Province (Grid MM21) during the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 24-25th) as a Single-Op/Low-Power/Sinlge-Band (10m - Possibly 20m if 10m conditions are not good) entry. He will be using 100 watts into a OCF

dipole at 30 feet. QSL via LoTW or to K9GY (see QRZ.com) direct or by the Bureau.

TK12, CORSICA (IOTA Op)

Laurent, F8BBL, will active as TK12IOTA from **Corsica (EU-014)** and two of its IOTAs between July 7-21st. Activity will be holiday style and will start from **Olmeto, Southern Corsica Beach (EU-014)**. Operations will be mobile on 80-10 meters, mainly CW, with some SSB and Digital, using a FT-857D and MP1 antenna. He will travel to the following islands on the tentative days:

July 14th: **Lavezzi Island (EU-164)**, DIFM TK-011, Loc. JN41OI); starting around 0800z.

July 18th: **Bloodthirsty (Sanguinaires) Island (EU-104)**, DIFM TK-002, Loc. JN41HV); starting around 1000z.

QSL via F8BBL, direct or by the Bureau. Also via LoTW. For more details and past operations, see:

<http://rnb.dx-cw.net>

TO3, SAINT BARTHELEMY

Operators Wim/ON4CIT and Paul/ON4BEC will be active as TO3X from **St. Barthelemy (NA-146)** between April 16-30th. Activity will be on 40-6 meters using mostly SSB and RTTY with some CW. They will look for JA stations every day during 2300-0200z on 15/12/10 meters on SSB and RTTY. QSL via ON4CIT, direct or by the Bureau. An online log will be available at ClubLog, as well as an OQRS. Log will be uploaded to LoTW later in the year. For more details and suggested frequencies, see the TO3X Web page at:

<http://www.dxpediton.be/TO3X.html>

ADDED NOTE: Wim, ON4CIT, is looking for operators for the next DXpedition at the end of 2012 or 2013 to Togo (5V) and to Benin (TY). If interested, contact him at: on4cit@telenet.be

TZ, MALI (Postponed!)

Members of the "Italian Dxpediton Team" announced two weeks ago that they were planning to be active as TZ5T from Mali between April 12-27th. However, their Pilot

station Art, IK7JWY, announced this past week [edited]: *"We regret having to give bad news about the planned DXpedition. The situation of civil war in Mali between the government and Tuareg is getting worse lately, and for safety reasons, the authorities do not issue licenses to radio amateurs who may be targeted because of radio equipment. For this reason the DXpedition is postponed until a later date."* It is suggested to watch their official Web site for updates at:

<http://www.i2ysb.com>

Official forum:

http://www.hamradioweb.org/forums/forum_display.php?f=65

Further notices will follow.

V3, BELIZE

Colin/KU5B will once again be active as V31UB between May 23-29th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB, and RTTY. He will also be in the CQWW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Single-Op/ All-Band entry. QSL direct to his home callsign or LoTW.

V6, MICRONESIA

Kay, JH3AZC, will be active as V63AZ from **Pohnpei Islands (OC-010)** between April 30th and May 4th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via JH3AZC. **ADDED NOTE:** "The Daily DX" reports that Kay will head to Guam after his V63AZ operation and be active as W2AZ/KH2 between May 5-6th.

VK9N, NORFOLK ISLAND (6m Op!)

Bob, ZL1RS, will be active as VK9N/ZL1RS from Duncombe Bay, Norfolk Island, between March 26th and April 8th. His activity will be 6 meters - Monitoring and calling CQ on 50.110 MHz SSB and 50.1106 MHz CW. He may also be on 6m EME, but at moonrise and moonset only. His equipment will be an IC-706mk2g, HB PA and HB stacked Yagis. QSL only direct to his home callsign. For more details and an operating schedule, go to:

<http://www.qsl.net/zl1rs/vk9n.html>

ADDED NOTE: Bob is planning a 6m and 2m operation from Niue (ZK2) between early

September and mid-November (see details below).

VP2M, MONTSERRAT

The "Buddies in the Caribbean" mini-DXpedition group is off to Montserrat (VP2M) between April 8-16th, with a new group of operators who have never experienced the "other side of a pileup"! Because of severe baggage limits on the flight from Antigua to Montserrat (one bag under 50 lbs!), they will be limited to 100 watt or less low power radios and the Buddipole portable antenna systems. Yet their goal is to demonstrate "ultralite" DXpeditioning into magnificent "vista" locations, operating a field portable battery-only radio with backpackable, light-weight antennas and most of all "having fun" on the "volcano isle".

The eight operators are: Budd/W3FF (VP2MFF), Guy/N7UN (VP2MUN), Paul/KB9AVO (VP2MVO), Larry/W7DGP (VP2MLR), Russ/N7QR (VP2MQR), Tom/K2GSJ (VP2MTM) and Chris/N2YYZ (VP2MYZ). There will be several villa stations in operation on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB, and RTTY or PSK. At the same time, several teams will be battery-only, field portable either from Montserrat beaches or scenic mountain tops. QSL via LoTW, eQSL, or mail to the operator's home callsign (SASE required).

XQ, CHILE

Esteban, XQ7UP, will be active from Coyhaique (Patagonia) between March 17-25th. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands using mostly SSB, RTTY and PSK31. He will also be active during the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 24-25th). QSL via direct to the address on QRZ.com.

ZA100, ALBANIA

Operators Franck/F4DTO and Patrick/F4GFE will once again be active from Albania, but as ZA100I between April 22-29th. Activity will be on 40-10 meters SSB only. QSL via F4DTO, direct or by the Bureau.

ZK2, NIUE (6 and 2 meter Op!)

Operators Lance/W7GJ and Bob/ZL1RS will once again team up to do a 6 meter (Lance) and 2 meter (Bob) EME DXpedition between September 9-21st, like they did together from E51 and 3D2. Lance will use the callsign ZK2GJ, while Bob will probably use his old callsign ZK2RS. Lance has the preliminary information about the DXpedition at:

<http://www.bigskyspaces.com/w7gj/Niue2012.htm>

QSL ZK2GJ via W7GJ and ZK2RS via ZL1RS DIRECT ONLY.

ZL7, CHATHAM ISLANDS

Only a few more days to work David, VO1AU, as ZL7/VO1AU from the [Chatham Islands \(OC-038\)](#). He will go QRT in March 13th. QSL via VO1MX.

**** IMPORTANT NOTICE/REMINDER**

The Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin now has a new FAX number.

Contributors can now send/fax their DX information to the following number:

1-419-828-7791 (FAX only!)

SPECIAL NOTE BY EDITOR:

If you are having a problem receiving bounced mail by sending mail to me via " kb8nw@barf80.nshore.org ", please send mail to me via "kb8nw@arrl.net "..... TNX de Tedd
KB8NW

**PLEASE NOTICE (as of February 12, 2007),
NEW ADDRESS CHANGES FOR THE
OPDX INTERNET
HELP/SUBSCRIBE/UNSUBSCRIBE
REQUEST:**

Help: opdx-request@barf80.org Subject:help
Subscribe: opdx-request@barf80.org
Subject:subscribe
Unsubscribe: opdx-request@barf80.org
Subject:unsubscribe

**OPDX WORLD-WIDE WEB HOME
(provided by John, K8YSE)**

[\(k8yse@papavs.com\)](mailto:k8yse@papavs.com):

<http://www.papavs.com/opdx.html>

ALSO VISIT THE NORTERN OHIO DX
ASSOCIATION'S WEB HOME PAGE:

<http://www.papavs.com/nodxa.html>

Excerpts and distribution of The OPDX
Bulletin are granted as long as
KB8NW/OPDX/BARF80 receive credit.
To contribute DX info, please send via
InterNet Mail to:

kb8nw@barf80.nshore.org

- OR -

kb8nw@arrl.net

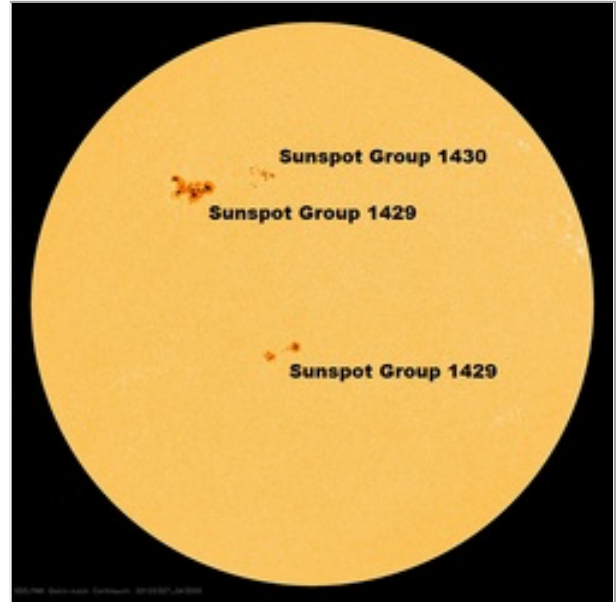
Information can now be faxed to the
following "NEW" phone line at:
1-419-828-7791 (F A X only!)

Propagation News: Active Sunspot Region 1429 Produces Solar Flares, Coronal Mass Ejections

This week has been an active week for our Sun. An X-1.1 class solar flare erupted from the Sun on March 4 at 11:13 PM EST (0413 UTC March 5), sending an explosion of plasma and charged particles -- a coronal mass ejection (CME) -- hurtling through space. Forecasters at NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center are saying that this CME should miss Earth, but it will hit Mercury and Venus. Then on March 6 at 7:28 PM EST (0028 UTC March 7), the Sun released a solar flare, the strongest one this year. The X-5 class flare hurled another CME into space, but it is too soon to tell if this is an Earth-directed flare. This activity is coming from sunspot 1429, which is currently making its way around the northern hemisphere of the Sun.

Sunspot 1429 -- which emerged on the Sun on March 2 and is estimated to be at least four to five times larger

than Earth -- is slowly turning to face Earth, so if any such eruptions do occur, they are increasingly likely to



This image of the Sun from Wednesday, March 7, shows the location of sunspot 1429, located on the left-hand side of the Sun's northern hemisphere. Sunspot 1430 is just to the right of 1429, and sunspot 1429 is in the Sun's southern hemisphere. [Photo courtesy of NASA/SDO]

be geoeffective.

When a CME hits the Earth's atmosphere -- approximately 72 hours after exploding on the Sun -- the low bands will be depressed and signals will be weaker the lower the frequency. The absorption rate will be most severe on 160 meters, less on 80 and somewhat better on 40 meters. The maximum usable frequency (MUF) -- the highest frequency at which a radio wave can propagate between given terminals by

ionospheric propagation alone, independent of power -- will be lower and auroral propagation on the VHF bands is quite possible.

When aurorae occur, the electrons hit the ionosphere at the North and South geomagnetic poles, creating ionization. Waves that would normally travel off into space are bouncing off the aurora and being redirected back toward Earth. This can create opportunities for long-distance propagation via VHF and UHF. Read more [here](#).

UP-COMING CONTESTS (complete)

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

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

March 2012

- 10-10 Int. Mobile Contest 0001Z-2359Z, Mar 17
- + BARTG HF RTTY Contest 0200Z, Mar 17 to 0200Z, Mar 19
- + 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
- + North Dakota QSO Party 1800Z, Mar 17 to 1800Z, Mar 18
- + Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0100Z-0300Z, Mar 19
- + CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Mar 24 to 2359Z, Mar 25
- + Missouri QSO Party 1800Z, Mar 31 to 0500Z, Apr 1 and 1800Z-2359Z, Apr 1

April 2012

- + Montana QSO Party 0000Z, Apr 14 to

- 2400Z, Apr 15
- + New Mexico QSO Party 1400Z, Apr 14 to 0200Z, Apr 15
- + QCWA Spring QSO Party 1800Z, Apr 14 to 1800Z, Apr 15
- + Georgia QSO Party 1800Z, Apr 14 to 0359Z, Apr 15 and 1400Z-2359Z, Apr 15
- + Michigan QSO Party 1600Z, Apr 21 to 0400Z, Apr 22
- + South Dakota QSO Party 1700Z, Apr 21 to 1700Z, Apr 22
- + Ontario QSO Party 1800Z, Apr 21 to 1800Z, Apr 22
- + Feld Hell Sprint 2000Z-2200Z, Apr 21
- + Nebraska QSO Party 1100Z, Apr 28 to 1700Z, Apr 29
- + Florida QSO Party 1600Z, Apr 28 to 0159Z, Apr 29 and 1200Z-2159Z, Apr 29

May 2012

- + 7th Call Area QSO Party 1300Z, May 5 to 0700Z, May 6
- + Indiana QSO Party 1600Z, May 5 to 0400Z, May 6
- + New England QSO Party 2000Z, May 5 to 0500Z, May 6 and 1300Z-2400Z, May 6

The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER

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