

The Nugget



Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

MEETING DATE, LOCATION & PROGRAM

When: Saturday, 23 March 2013 at 11:30AM.

Where: The March meeting of the Mother Lode DX / Contest Club will be at Mountain Mike's Pizza in Martell. 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: At this month's meeting we get to learn all about remote controlled DXing and contesting from

Rich, N6RC. I'm looking forward to it, and hope to see you there.

MLDXCC Meeting Dates:

April (no meeting. International DX Convention in Visalia).
December (no meeting)

2013-Officers

President – Bob, W1RH
Vice President – Rich, WC6H
Secretary – Kay, K6KO
Treasurer – Carolyn, K6TKD
Director – Ray, ND6S
Director – Shirl, AA6K

OUR MEMBERS AT THE FEBURARY MEETING IN CAMERON PARK ENJOYING LUNCH



General Registration is now open for the International DX Convention from April 19-21, 2013 in Visalia, CA.

Complete details can be found on the IDXC website:

Convention Registration:
<http://www.dxconvention.com/pages/registration.html>
Hope to see you in Visalia soon!

**73,
John Miller, K6MM
Kevin Rowett, K6TD
2013 IDXC Co-Chairs**

FROM THE PREZ

Hello MLDXCC'ers!
It's been a busy month. Lots of contests and lots of projects. I had a marathon day in February. It started out with Alan, K6SRZ, asking me if I could pick up 5 cases of wine from Jeff, WK6I, for the CQP winners. I did it around a business trip to Modesto. From Modesto, I went to Jeff's Twisted Oak winery, near Murphy's. I got a nice tour of the winery (second time I've been there) and got the cook's tour of the fabulous wine cave on the property. If you haven't seen the wine cave, you really must talk Jeff into a tour. Sample some wine and buy a bottle or two. It will make for a nice afternoon. I traded Jeff a bottle of home brew, for a bottle of Twisted Oak.
Jeff bought me lunch and it gave me a nice chance to talk wine and to pick his brain on the art of RTTY contesting.
Following lunch, and with 5 cases of Twisted Oak Temporillo in the trunk, I headed to the office in Sacramento and had a few hours of quality time. The day wasn't over, however. Next thing on the agenda was to head off to the REDXA meeting, in Petaluma, to hand off the 5 cases to K6SRZ. I must say that I had a great time at the REDXA meeting, which was at a

Cattlemen's restaurant. REDXA President, Jim, K6JS, introduced me and my introduction was followed by a chorus of boos...but all in good fun. Jim, like me, is a home winemaker and he provided a few bottles of a Zinfandel/Syrah blend that was absolutely excellent. The other highlight of the month was the NCCC awards meeting. I picked up Rich, WC6H, and we headed to Mountain View. Ken, K6TA, and Kay, K6KO, were also at the meeting, as well as a few other MLDXCC'ers. It was a productive night for our club. Between Rich and I, the table had several pieces of lumber and a few bottles of CQP wine. Rich, who is our VP, and I accepted the CQP club competition award, and that felt real good. I also got the 1st Place, Multi-single plaque for our K6C effort with Martin, AA1ON. Rich got a piece of lumber for SS. Ken and Lay also walked away with a certificate. Thanks to TV Bob for the pictures below.





BTW: If don't recognize the faces of these folks, your not attending our meetings.....(ed)

As far as the station is concerned, I rebuilt a Cushcraft A3S and put it about 30 feet up tower two, as suggested by N6BV. It plays real well, and fills the weak signal void that I

have been seeing from my higher tribander. Often, signals are stronger on the lower antenna, which is on a tower about 300 feet down the hill from the Force12 C19XR. Ultimately, I would like to stack three A3S's on this tower.

As far as contesting is concerned, I was active in NAQP contests in the past month, as well as ARRL DX. This month's meeting is in Martel. We get to learn all about remote controlled DXing and contesting from Rich, N6RC. I'm looking forward to it, and hope to see you there.

THE VP SEZ

Happy March to all! Is it me, or does this year seem to be moving faster than last. At the March meeting, Richard, N6RC, will be demonstrating his remote rig set up. I will not be in attendance due to a business meeting I'll be attending. On March 11th the NCCC had their annual awards dinner meeting. Bob, W1RH and I drove down together. It was good to see and talk with friends in person rather than just a quick contest exchange. Congratulations to all the MLDXCC members who received recognition at the meeting. The MLDXCC was also presented with the Number 1 club competition plaque again. This past year we had very stiff competition from the REDX club. We had 35 submitted for a total of 2,845,000 points. REDX had 16 logs submitted with 2,318,362 points. I think next year we need to increase the number of logs submitted, as well as increasing each individual's scores. A strategy meeting

will need to be held to help increase our individual scores. REDX is tired of us winning each year and is out to break our winning streak. The MLDX-CC can never get tired of winning, so each year we must get better to stay ahead of the competition. At the home station I am getting ready for the WPX contest. We will be doing a multi 2 effort again this year. My Alpha 99 has a problem, it will tune up on all bands except 160. I spoke with RF Concepts (Alpha) and we narrowed it down to a shorted capacitor. The new part should arrive on Tuesday so I can get the amp fixed. Our team this year will be Barry K6ST, Richard N6RC, Bob N6TV, Jim WX6V, Rich WC6H and a new addition Steve G3ZVW. Steve also holds the call signs AF6SU and ZD8N. At the NCCC meeting I talked with Tom K5RC and we have a challenge between his station N7RN and WC6H. Tom has put up more antennas than he had last year. We will have to step up our game this year to beat them. That's it from here. I will see everyone in Visalia.

73 Rich WC6H

73 Rich, WC6H

January 2013 Treasurer's Report

Balance February 1, 2013: 1393.86

1393.86

Income: Dues – W6RFF, N6JV 30.00

Expenses: 00.00

Balance February 28, 2013: \$1423.86

Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD, Treasurer

Tube of the Month de Norm, N6JV

THE PHOTOMULTIPLIER

Years before the invention of the vacuum tube, scientists were experimenting with the effects of radiation on different compounds and surfaces. X-ray images and using cathode ray tubes (CRTs) are examples. Different types of minerals were discovered that would react to being hit by charged particles and produce visible photons. In later years, experiments with vacuum tubes showed the process of secondary emission where electrons hitting certain surfaces would excite additional electrons.

In 1941, the RCA Company produced the first photomultiplier tube that incorporated these principals. The RCA 5819, that was introduced in 1949, is the example shown. When an ion enters the chamber at the top, that is called a scintillator, it will strike an internal crystal that will produce photons. The photons are directed to a photocathode where they become electrons. The electrons are directed to a series of coated reflectors called dynodes. As the electrons bounce off the dynode they excite additional electrons due to the secondary emission effect. A second dynode charged at a higher potential, adds electrons to the stream until all ten dynodes have added to the output.

The resulting signal at the anode can be measured or used to operate a circuit or relay.



The multiplication process can result in a signal 1,000,000 times the input.

The original RCA photomultiplier, the 931, was used in a broadband jammer transmitter where the tube looked at a small lamp. The Manhattan Project stimulated the research on photomultiplier based radiation

counters. A photomultiplier hooked to a telescope is a natural application. DX QSOs on a laser beam?

Visit the museum at N6JV.com

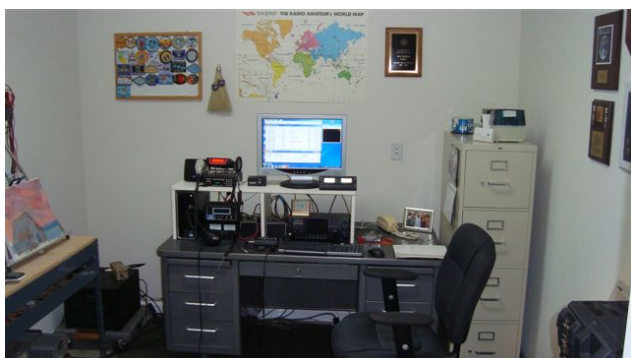
Norm N6JV

Editor's Notes de Rick, W6SR

Hi All...

Lots of stuff going on here in the last month, I submitted my tower plans to the county and am waiting for an on-site inspection this coming week. So I hope that we will be digging a hole soon. I finally finished texturing the walls, painting and carpeting the HAM shack. As well as setup my electronics repair bench in there, and have a new portable A/C on order. That should keep the place cool this summer.

Ya' gotta' admit it looks a lot better than in the last photos. Huh?



DX? I worked TX5K on 8 of the 9 bands (missed em' on 30M) on the 1st call on 80 and 160M! I also worked DU7ET on 160M last week for #179, as well as H44G, and 9M4SLL on 160M. All DX was worked with wires in the trees. Who says dipoles don't work? Enough for now, see you all on the 22nd**de Rick, W6SR**

Member News, Items For Sale & ARRL Announcements & Feedback

Please look for PJ4/W1SRD and PJ4/N6DE operating from the PJ4G station before and after WPX phone. **We will be M/2 during WPX as PJ4D.**

We might even get KOBEE on the air!
73,
Steve, W1SRD

I worked H40T on 10 MHz CW at 14:23Z (7:23 AM PDT) for an all-time new Country. Their web site says they will be on 160M from there and H44, nothing yet from H40 on 160M.

de Dave, W6DE

I went on a fishing expedition for new 80 mtr countries hoping to fill out 5 band DXCC. I logged two new ones on 80. Big deal. 135 Q's/31,047pts working sr/ss and dodging Ja's. When Lotw catches up I should have a few new band countries, too.
73 Ray,ND6S

Regarding new awards I have received recently....

A1-Op (finally after 60 years on CW) !
SKCC (Straight Key Century Club, member #6830T)

WAS 15m & 20m endorsements
WAC

Prefix (x2 = Million points), 15m & 20m endorsements

DXQ-50
DXC-25

Exercised my club call, KZ50M in SKCC and ARRL DX contests

Worked a bit of DX, too - TX5K on multiple bands, etc.
All great fun.

de Jerry, k6iii
Grass Valley, CA

Hi all you stateside folks....

I worked TX5K on all bands CW except 6 meters where I worked them on EME. Life is good in Hawaii, Aloha,
Fred, KH7Y

Meeting Minutes, 9 February 2013.

President Bob, W1RH, called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM at Los Pinos Restaurant in Cameron Park, with 18 members and 4 guests present.

Introductions. Round-the-room introductions were made, including guests WA6NHC, Rick; N6NQX, Dan; WB6OKK, Karen; and N6JV/XYL, Mary.

Officers' Roll Call. Present were Bob, President; Rich, WC6H, Vice President; Kay, K6KO, Secretary; Rick, W6SR, *Nugget* newsletter editor; and Norm, N6JV, website administrator.

Secretary's Minutes and Treasurer's Report. The 26 January 2013 Secretary's minutes and Treasurer's reports were approved as published in the February *Nugget* newsletter.

Upcoming DXpeditions/DX News.

Upcoming DXpeditions and current DX news are detailed in the February 2013 *Nugget* newsletter, available on the Club's website, www.mldxcc.org.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Future Meeting Dates, Venues and Presentations.

The March meeting will be held on the 23rd at Mountain Mike's Pizza in Martell, possibly with a presentation by Richard, N6RC, on Remote Radio Operation. Future venues in discussion are Auburn, Cameron Park, Lodi, Martell, Roseville, Galt, and WK6I's winery in Murphys. Presentations discussed were Dick, N6AA, DXing in all 40 zones; Alan, K6SRZ, experiences as a

DXpedition doctor; Dean, N6BV, terrain/HFTA; Jim, K9YC, contesting on a small lot; Stu, K6TU, software defined radios; and Rick, W6SR, antenna modeling/10 GHz contest.

Club Focus and Upcoming Contests.

Sweepstakes continues to be an NC-CC-focused contest this year, with the MLDXCC donating our points to the "mother club".

NEW BUSINESS.

Membership. No new membership applications were received.

MLDXCC-NCCC-REDXA Joint Meeting and Visalia Contest Dinner.

Discussions included the possibility of a May date for the joint meeting, at the same venue as last year, with either K5ZD talking on CQ WW as a contest or N6AA on DX'ing in all 40 zones as presentation possibilities. Suggestions for a raffle to be held at the Visalia Contest Dinner were discussed, posed as a motion, passed. Bob, W1RH, agreed to head the effort.

Program Presentation and Adjournment.

Bob, W1RH, presented a program on "Checking the Checker", his experiences as a log checker for the 2012 CQP logs, including a log check session on Rich, WC6H's submission. Of particular interest was the process the human checker goes through to resolve discrepancies flagged by the automated log check software, including QSOs not appearing in other logs, busted calls, missing frequency info, etc, and how those resolutions are awarded points. The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 PM.

CALL					
K6KO	KAY	PINE GROVE	X		X
K6TA	KEN	PINE GROVE	X		X
W6SR	RICK	PLACERVILLE	X		X
WB6OKK		KAREN			PLACERVILLE
N6JV	NORM	SACRAMENTO	X		X
N6JV/YXL		MARY			SACRAMENTO
W6RFF	JETTIE	ROSEVILLE	X		X
WE6C	BOB	LOOMIS			X
W6VMT	VERNE	PLEASANT VALLEY	X		X
W6DHN	FRANK	GEORGETOWN	X		X
W6HFM	HARRY	PILOT HILL	X		X
W1RH	BOB	LOTUS	X		X
KG6PNP	NANCY	EL DORADO HILLS	X		
KE6GLA	JAY	EL DORADO HILLS	X		
KG6YHH	DOC	MEADOW VISTA	X		
WA6NHC	RICK	CAMERON PARK			
K6OLY	JIM	SHINGLE SPRINGS	X		
N6NQX	DAN	RIVERBANK			
K6YK	JOHN	STOCKTON	X		
K6LE	RICK	MODESTO	X		X
WC6H	RICH	VALLEY SPRINGS	X		X
N6DW	DANA	SACRAMENTO	X		X

Kay Anderson, K6KO Secretary

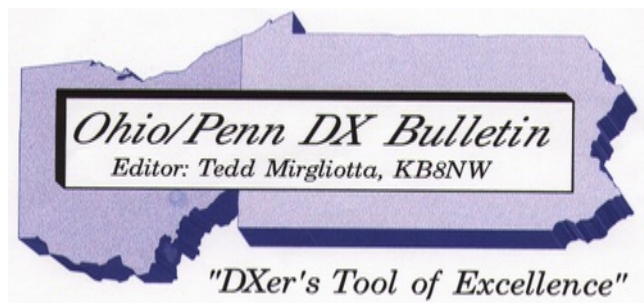
Click on the Hyperlink below to check-out the MLDXCC scores in the latest contests.

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

List of those present.

NAME	QTH	MLDXCC	NCCC
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UP-COMING DX and Dxpeditions
Click the link below to display up-coming Announced DXpeditions:
<http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>



OPDX Bulletin 1104 March 18, 2013

The Ohio/Penn Dx PacketCluster
DX Bulletin No. 1104
BID: \$OPDX.1104
March 18, 2013
Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW
Provided by BARF80.ORG
(Cleveland, Ohio)

10 METER CONTEST

Members of "Radio Club
Guadeloupe" (ACRA - FG5KC)
invite all Contests/DXers to be
active in the "2013 Championship
10M FG (Guadeloupe) SSB Contest"
on June 29th, between 0100-
2300z. Details are available at:

[http://rc-fg5kc.over-
blog.org/pages/CONTEST_2013_CHAMPIONSHI
P_10M_SSB_GUADELOUPE-8570589.html](http://rc-fg5kc.over-blog.org/pages/CONTEST_2013_CHAMPIONSHIP_10M_SSB_GUADELOUPE-8570589.html)

5H, TANZANIA (Update/IOTA Op)

Bodo, DF8DX, will be active as
5H1DX between April 20-28th.
Activity will include the
activation of several IOTAs
which include the following:

AF-075 - Bongoyo Island as 5H1DX3
AF-063 - Pemba Island as 5H1DX
AF-032 - Zanzibar as 5H1DX

Operations will be on the HF bands and
EME. QSL via DF8DX.

8P, BARBADOS

Dean, 8P6SH, will be active as
8P2K during the CQWW WPX SSB
Contest (March 30-31st) as a
Single-Op/Single-Band (10m)
entry. QSL via KU9C.

8P, BARBADOS

Jeff, VA3QSL, is once again
heading to the Caribbean, but
this time he will be active as
8P9HI from Farther Away Cottage,
Bayfield, St. Philip, **Barbados**
(NA-021), between April 6-13th.
Activity will be holiday style
on the HF bands. QSL via his
home callsign, direct or by the
Bureau.

8Q, MALDIVES

Noel, F6BGC, will be active as
8Q7NC from Rihiveli, South Male
Atoll, in the **Maldives Islands**
(AS-013) between March 19-29th.
He plans to operate holiday
style on 40-6 meters with 100w
and a vertical, using mostly SSB
with some CW and RTTY. He
states, "The island is isolated
in the Indian Ocean, it's motto
is 'No News, No Shoes'. There is
no InterNet, cell phone ... so
no DXA and no Cluster!" QSL via
F6BGC, direct or by the Bureau
and LoTW. More information can
be found at:

<http://f8kcf.free.fr>

9X, RWANDA

Kiyoshi "KIYO", JR1IZM (ex-
V31IZ, 7P8ZM), has been in
Kigali since February and
announced that he finally
received his license/callsign
9X0ZM. He will be there until
March of 2014 and expects to be

active soon. Activity will be limited to his free time. He will use an IC-7200 with ATU/AH-4 and Loop antenna. Operations will be mainly 20 meters on the Digital mode (JT65), CW and SSB. QSL via JO1CRA, direct (SASE) or by the Bureau.

A5, BHUTAN

Yuki, JH1NBN, is expected to be active as A52W through March 26th. He is in Bhutan on business, so his activity will only be during his spare time. There has been no QSN reported as this was being written. QSL via JH1NBN direct.

A7, QATAR

Operators Ali/A71BX, Khalid/A71CO, Abdulla/A71CV, Saif/A71AM and Andrey/RA9CKQ will be active as A71AM from Dukhan during the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 30-31st) as a Multi-2 entry. QSL via A71AM, direct or by the Bureau.

DAYTON HAMVENTION NEWS (SWODXA DX DINNER ANNOUNCEMENT, dated March 13th)

Janet Pater, W8CAA, writes,

"FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- The SouthWest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) has announced that David Patton, NN1N, will be the featured speaker for their 28th annual DX dinner™. The dinner, held in conjunction with the 2013 Dayton Hamvention®, will be on Friday, May 17th, at the Marriott Hotel in Dayton.

Dave was first licensed in 1977 at the age of 12 as WD9DCL. Always an avid DXer and contester, the two-time WRTC competitor has been on world record holding multi-op teams at 6Y2A and HC8N. Changing his

calls frequently in his quest for a "good" call sign, Dave has worked 10 Band DXCC along with 2875 countries in the DXCC Challenge using 'DCL, KJ9W, AH2U, NU9R, WO0G, AA9AK, WX3N, KW9KW, W9QA, NT1N and now NN1N. In his past he has been a net control, and public service volunteer, as well as a 6-year President of the Society of Midwest Contesters.

He started at ARRL HQ as the Special Assistant to the Executive Vice President, and is now the Manager of the Membership and Volunteer Programs Department with a staff of 22. The MVP Dept. includes Field Services, W1AW, Emergency Preparedness and Response, ARRL Operating Awards, and the QSL Bureau.

Dave will have an informative and entertaining presentation on the Logbook of the World (LOTW™). We look forward to Dave presenting 'What hath LOTW Wrought?'; exploring the initial, current and future impact of this state-of-the-art logging and awards website.

For more information and to order dinner tickets, visit WWW.SWODXAEVENTS.ORG and follow us on @SWODXA ."

E5, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS (Update/New 'Resident' Operator/QSL INFO & Change)

Andy, AB7FS/E51AND, informs OPDX that he is moving to [Rarotonga \(OC-013\)](http://WWW.RAROTONGA.COM). Edited excerpts from his long E-mail, Andy writes,

"My wife Kat and I are moving to Rarotonga -- she arrives there on March 25th and I will be there on April 29th. We are moving into a house in the part

of Arorangi Beach called Inave (say ee-nah-vay) -- about 100 meters inland from the back road -- and probably about 1/2 mile inland from the beach roughly in line with the Crown Beach or Manuia Beach "resorts" (There are no street addresses in Rarotonga). We would rather be inland to moderate the impact of cyclones and to stay away from the storm surges. Arorangi is on the West side of Rarotonga, and we will have a range of volcanic mountains up to 2,500 feet to the East -- which may limit operations in that direction. I hope to be operating using a 43 ft vertical and 100 watts from a Yaesu FT 857D by the end of the first week of May.

The container with the tower and yagis will likely not arrive until early June -- so it will be July or August before I have the tower up and the yagis in the air. Once it's up we should have a 5 element KLM monobander at 70 feet for 20m and a Tennadyne T7 at 80 feet for the higher bands. Not sure yet how we will handle 30 meters and below though we do have an OCF dipole and I can drive the tower.

We'll be using a Icom 756Pro and have an Ameritron AL1200 - though I prefer to operate using as little power as possible. I'm a ragchewer at heart -- NOT a DXer -- and with several active hams on Raro I'm hoping to avoid some of the rapid fire 5 and 9 contacts and ACTUALLY talk to people. LOL. I got back into CW a while back and although I'm still plodding along at 10 wpm, I enjoy CW and will likely hang out at the Straight Key Century Club frequencies and exchange SKCC numbers with other members. On SSB, the place to find me

will be on the ANZA DX net (14183 kHz daily starting at 0515z). And if you are looking for esoteric VK and NZ -- and Tahiti, Fiji, the Cooks, New Caledonia, Kiribati, etc.. -- and the occasional African Station -- it's a good net to check in to. Kat is also a licensed Ham (ZK1SCH/KB7SCH) and I'm hoping that being in a 'rare' location will prompt her to get on the air .

Other active hams on Rarotonga include: Jim Ditchburn, E51JD, in the village of Tupapa (North side of the Island) who is on almost daily on 20 meters SSB; Victor Rivera, E51CG (or E51USA), in Nikao (NW corner) who tends to work the highest band open and has a 6m beacon; and Bob Walker, E51BQ, in Muri in the SE corner of the Island... I'll keep the E51AND page on QRZ.com updated." Andy announced on March 11th, on QRZ.com, that there is a change in the QSL route (address) and he has responded to all cards received to date!! After April 15th, he states, "Please QSL DIRECT to P.O. Box 618, Avarua, Rarotonga, Cook Islands". He also states, "If there are problems/issues with your QSL -- Please E-mail me with all the QSO info and your mailing address - I have a paper log and CANNOT find you without date, time and callsign Thanks". Andy also mentions, "If all goes as planned I should have a good gain antenna system on Rarotonga, and I may try for [Palmerston \[OC-124\]](#) (or possibly [PukaPuka \[OC-098\]](#)) again in July

or August . This time with better preparation and hopefully a Hex Beam at 30+ feet. "

Take a look at his [QRZ.com](http://www.qrz.com) page for some great pictures.

E6, NIUE (Reminder)

Look for operators Alan/VK4WR and Graeme/VK4FI to be active as E6RQ and E6SG, respectively, from Niue (OC-040) between March 22-29th. Their activity will focus on 6 meters as well as some HF operations. QSL both callsigns via VK4FI

FR, REUNION ISLAND

Guy, F5MNW, will be active as FR/F5MNW from [Reunion Island \(AF-016\)](#) between April 6-29th. Activity will be on the HF bands using only CW. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the Bureau.

H40 & H44, TEMOTU AND SOLOMON ISLANDS (Update)

The "Two Entities DX- pedition - Solomon 2013" continues with both operations on the air as this was being written. The first group signing H44G from [Guadalcanal \(OC-047\)](#), Solomon Islands will operate until March 25th. The second group finally hit the air waves as H40T on March 16th (after a flight delay of 4 days due to bad weather), from [Santa Cruz Island \(OC-100\)](#) [Temotu Island], and will operate until March 23rd. Activity from both locations will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. See [OPDX.1103](#) for suggested frequencies. QSL route is via DL7DF, direct or by the Bureau. For more details and updates, visit:

<http://www.dl7df.com/h4/index.php>

H44, SOLOMON ISLANDS (IOTA Op/Update to [OPDX.1103](#))

Operators Ralph, 5W0W/H44RK, Dom/SQ9KWW, Tom/WL7HP and Maggie/H44MK (the only local YL Ham from Sikiana) are planning an upcoming IOTA tour which will start during the first week of June. The callsign will be H44IOTA (not H40IOTA as mentioned earlier). The group now has a Web, Twitter and FaceBook page at:

<http://www.h44iota.com>

<https://twitter.com/h44iota>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/H44-IOTA-DXpedition/136003426577924>

Activity will be on 80-10 meters using CW and SSB. The suggested frequencies are:

CW - 3530, 7030, 10115, 14040, 18098, 21040, 24920 and 28040 kHz

SSB - 3755, 7055, 14260, 18128, 21260, 24950, 28460 and 28560 kHz

All QSL requests are via QSL Manager Rex Turvin, NR6M. For updates, it is suggested to watch:

<http://www.qrz.com/db/H40RK>

HB30, SWITZERLAND

Member of the Tera Radio Club (HB9OK) will celebrate their 30th anniversary by using the callsign HB30OK until the end of the year. Look for operators Marco/HB9OCR, Luigi/HB9CXZ, Claudio/HB9OAU and Marco/HB9EUY to use the special callsign during the CQWW WPX SSB Contest as a Multi-Single entry. QSL via HB9OCR, director by the Bureau.

HC, ECUADOR

Dr. Rick, NE8Z/HC1MD, will once again be active from here between March 21st and April 11th. Activity will be from Tumbaco on 40-10 meters operating CW, SSB and RTTY, using a TS-850s with a Heath SB-200 into a Carolina Windom (40-10m) antenna. QSL via K8LJG. View the HC DX-Diplomas at:

<http://webpages.charter.net/ne8z/NE8Z/welcome.html>

HQ9, HONDURAS

Ray, WQ7R, will once again be active as HQ9R from Honduras, but this time during the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (March 30-31st) as Single-Op/Single-Band (10m)/Low-Power entry. QSL via K5WW or LoTW.

IOTA NEWS

AF-019. (Update) An international team of operators will be active as IG9Y from **Lampedusa Island** between October 17-30th. Operators mentioned are Khalid/A61BK, Gianni/IT9BUN, Roy/IW9ELR, Don/JH5GHM, Boyko/LZ1QN, Dale/N3BNA, Frederic/ON4LG, Aurelio/PC5A, Romeo/S52RU, Peter/S54W, Renato/S57UN and Drago/S59A. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB, and RTTY, with four stations on the air. The team will be in the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 26-27th) as a Multi-2 entry. QSL via ON4LG. An OQRS will be available for direct and Bureau cards. Visit their Web page at:

<http://ig9.ii9p.com>

AS-073. Jack, SP5APW, will be active as 9M2/SP5APW from **Perhentian Besar Island** between

May 1-7th. Activity will be SSB and a little digital. His license is good for 160-10 meters. QSL via his home callsign, direct, by the Bureau or use LoTW. For updates, watch: <http://as-073.blogspot.com>

AS-118. Members of the Kuwait Amateur Radio Society are once again active as 9K2F from **Failaka Island** between now and March 18th. This is their 7th annual trip. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL via 9K2HN. Watch last year's operation at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EdmJe2saYm4>

EU-006. Members of the Papa Lima DX Group will be active as EJ0PL from **Inishmore Islands (Aran Islands)** between July 23-29th. Ten operators plan to have three stations active on 80-6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. Activity will include the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 27-28th) as a Multi-Op/High-Power entry. They will use Hexbeams (20-6m) and verticals (80-30m). Operators mentioned are Michal/EI3KG, John/EI4GK, Adam/EI5JQ, Robert/EI6KD, Oleg/EI7KD, Waldi/SP7IDX, Jerzy/SQ7JT, David/EI9FBB, Ark/EI9KC and Mietek/SP9NWN. QSL via EI5JQ, direct or by the Bureau. An OQRS will be available via ClubLog. Log will be uploaded to LoTW, eQSL and HRDLOG.net.

EU-008. Members of the Camb-Hams will once again activate the Isle of Mull (IOSA NH15, SCOTIA CN10, WLOTA 2485), **Inner Hebrides**, as GS3PYE/p between May 10-16th. They were there in April 2008. Activity will be on

all HF bands (600-10m) using five stations with amps. Operations will also be on 6m, 4m and 2m. They will focus more effort on 2m EME. QSL via M0VFC (OQRS via QRZ.com). More details and updates can be found at: <http://dx.camb-hams.com>

EU-038. Wim, PA0WRS, will be active as homecall/p from **Ameland Island** (WLOTA 1059) between April 19-26th. Activity will be on the HF bands, all modes, propagation permitting. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the Bureau.

EU-039. Operators Jacques/ON500, Jean-Jacques/ON7EQ, Noel/ON4NS, Pascal/ON5RA, Ann/ON5AR, Roger/ON6WU, Martin/ON4VMA, Frank/ ON5NQ, Peter/ON8ZZ and Frederik/ON8ZL will be active as TM7T from **Grand Ile** (DIFM MA-004, WLOTA 0424) in the Iles Chausey Group between July 26-28th. Activity will include the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 27-28th) as a Multi-Op/24hr/DXpedition entry. Operations will be on 80-10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via ON8ZL, direct QRZ.com or by the ON Bureau. See the QRZ.com Web page for more details at:

<http://www.qrz.com/db/TM7T>

NA-174. (Update to OPDX.1103) The "DX-World.net" reports that David, VE3VID, who is currently active as VY0/VE3VID from the rare **Igloolik Island** (WW.Loc EP-99), will be there until March 29th, but he will return later this year during September/October. Currently, David uses a 20m dipole on RTTY, but has plans to use a multiband antenna

upon his return. His work obligations will determine his activity, but generally he will be on the air after 2100z and definitely weekends. QSL via his home callsign, by the Bureau or direct to: David Gerrard, 1653 Mountain Rd, R.R. #1, Westport, ON, K0G 1X0, Canada.

OC-090. Victor, R6AF, will be active as DU1/R6AF from **Busuanga Island** possibly April 27th and May 3rd. Watch for updates on Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/r6af>

SA-050. José, CE8DMT, will be active from **Navarino Island** (WAP CHL-13) in the Chilean Antarctic Province between March 23-24th, to meet the needs for European and North American stations seeking WAP Antarctic stations award. José will operate according to the following schedule:

1330-1530z on 15 meters (21277 kHz)

1600-1700z on 10 meters (28477 kHz)

He will use a Kenwood TS-130S into a Hi-Gain 3 element Yagi beam. QSL via address on QRZ.com. Suggested URLs are:

<http://www.waponline.it/NewsInformation/tabid/225/Default.aspx>

<http://yimber-gaviria.blogspot.com/2013/03/chile-antartic-province-ce8-23-24-de.html>

ISO, SARDINIA

Hubert, OE3FHA, will be active as ISO/OE3FHA from **Sardinia (EU-024, IIA SD-001, MIA MIS-035, WLOTA 1608)** between September 8-26th. Activity will be on 40/20/15 meters using SSB with

100 watts and a CP6 Diamond antenna. QSL via his home callsign, by the ARI Bureau or direct.

J3, GRENADA

Operators Tom/OE2ATN and Franz/OE2SNL will be on a suitcase DXpedition to **Grenada Island (NA-024, WLOTA 0718)** between October 28th and November 10th. The callsign has not been issued yet. Operations will be on CW, SSB and RTTY with 100-200 watts. A Web page is under constructions. More details will be forthcoming.

KH6BZF PROPAGATION FORECAST/REPORT (March 18-24th)

Mar/18th AN Mar/19th AN Mar/20th AN
 Mar/21st HN-AN Mar/22nd AN
 Mar/23rd AN Mar/24th AN

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SOLAR REFERENCE KEYS/INDEXES AND GEOMAGNETIC REFERENCE

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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
VRY DIS - Very Disturbed	Severe Storm	K=6-9	100-400

KH9, WAKE ISLAND (Press Release)

Joe, W8GEX, sent out the following press release on March 10th [edited]: "Press Release #2 - Wake Atoll Commemorative DXpedition -- "We are pleased to announce the callsign for the Commemoration anticipated taking place at the beginning of October, 2013.

K9W has been assigned to this event! The actual days of use

will be announced on our website and through the normal media channels.

Additionally, we are happy to announce that Val, NV9L, and Col, MMØNDX, have joined the Team as Pilot Stations. Pilot stations are essential members of the DXpedition's operation and gather the DX communities' feedback during the event. This information allows the 'on island team' to tailor their activities to the needs of stations worldwide.

We have received our first foundation support from INDEXA and donations from clubs and individuals.

In-depth planning is continuing and progressing nicely thanks to the efforts of many members of the DX community. Their input and assistance is greatly appreciated and welcomed!

Please check our web site often for updates:

<http://www.wake2013.org/> K9W Wake Atoll Management Team"

OH0, ALAND ISLANDS

Operators Pertti/OG2W and Raimo/OH0BCI will be active as OH0/OG2W from the **Aland Islands (EU-002, WLOTA 1373, WWFF OHFF-037)** between March 20-24th. Activity will be on all HF bands and modes. QSL via OG2W, direct or by the Bureau.

P5, NORTH KOREA (Update To P5/K6VVA Pending "CW ONLY" & IOTA AS-197 Activation Proposal Project)

Rick, K6VVA, posted another new supplement (INFO UPDATE #2) at:

<http://www.k6vva.com/p5/p5infouupdate2.pdf>

If you have not read the general information page <http://www.k6vva.com/p5> and/or Rick's "INFO UPDATE #1"

<http://www.k6vva.com/p5/p5infouupdate1.pdf>, it is suggested that you do so before reading "INFO UPDATE #2".

In short, Rick updates everyone on his efforts and continues to pursue his goal of activating P5 from an IOTA (**AS-197**) on CW only. However, in "INFO UPDATE #2" he states, "Yet a new alternative route to potential success has also materialized, and I decided to unleash the full 'long term' plan, which has been to activate ALL of the four P5 IOTA Designators (**AS-195, AS-196, AS-197 and AS-198**)." He also talks about the recent appalling behavior of DXpedition pileups.

PB33, NETHERLANDS (Special Event)

Jaap, PA7DA, will be active with the special callsign PB33Q (Princess Beatrix 33 years Queen) between April 20th and May 1st. On April 30th, Queen Beatrix will hand over the throne to her eldest son Prince Willem Alexander. On April 30th, 1980, she took over the throne of her mother Juliana. When she abdicates her throne, she has been the Queen for almost 33 years. Activity will be on the HF bands, as well as 6 and 2 meters. QSL please via the Bureau. For more details, see:

<http://pa7da.jouwweb.nl/pb33q>

ADDED NOTE: There will be several other amateur stations to be active with special callsigns during this event. As

this was being written, look for the following announced special callsigns:

PA33KBX in Zeeuws Vlaanderen (QSL PA0ABM) PD6KING -> PD9ND
PB2013KING -> PA9LUC
PE6KING -> PE1KFC
PB6KING -> PB2JJ
PA200KING -> PD5ROB
PC6KING -> PC7C
PC13KING -> PA1DV

PJ4, BONAIRE (Update to OPDX.1103)

Operators Steven/W1SRD and Dean/N6DE will be active as PJ4/homecall from the "Radio House" on **Bonaire (SA-006, WLOTA LH-1279)** between March 26th and April 1st. They plan to be active as PJ4D in the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 30-31st) as a Multi-2 entry. Operation before and after the contest will be focused on RTTY. QSL via LoTW is preferred. Direct to W1SRD with SASE/return postage for the contest callsign. QSL the QSOs to their homecalls for contacts outside of the contest.

PJ7, SINT MAARTEN

Operators Randy/N0TG, Ron/AA4VK and Jeff/N1SNB will be active as PJ7/homecall from **Dutch Sint Maarten (NA-105, WLOTA 0711, DIFO FS-001)** between March 15-23rd. Activity will be a suitcase operation on 40-10 meters using CW and SSB, with wire antennas and 100 watts. QSL "ALL" callsigns via AA4VK.

QSL INFO AND NEWS

QSL-INFO from DB0SDX (dated March 17th)

4S7TRG via OK1CZ G50 via
G8SRS PS2T via K3IRV
5B/R2DX via R2DX GW70 via
GW3SQX RK3FG via DK3WG
5N/RZ3DJ via RZ3DJ J47X via
SV7BVM S503EO via S53EO
9K2F via 9K2HN KH0XH via
JE1XUZ SD2G via SA2AWO
CT8/K0RUI via K0RUI KH0XW via
JQ2WTT TA1/UR0FF via UR0FF

EA8/DL2DXA via DL2DXA KH6/K1YR
 via K1YR V31RT via WB1EAZ
 ED5LD via EA5LD LX/9A8MM
 via 9A8MM VK8/OZ1AA via OZ1ACB
 ED5T via EA5ELT LZ1323SKZ
 via LZ1KCP VP8LIZ via VP8LP (d)
 EG7HR via EA7NL OH0X via
 OH2TA VY0/VE3VID via VE3VID
 EO1I via UT1IA OT4S via
 ON8SI YQ6A via YO6BHN
 FS/DK50N via DK50N PA1MUC via
 DL3LUM ZF2AH via W6VNR
 FS/LY2IJ via LY2IJ PJ2/AA1M
 via AA1M ZV2K via PY2SHF

(e) eQSL only (d) direct only

(B) Bureau only (L) LoTW only

QSL RECEIVED VIA LoTW: 3B8MM, 4A4A, 9A7A, 9K2MU, 9M4SLL, 9X0NH, CN8KD, E77DX, ER1LW, EX8BN, FM5FJ, HF9Q, J38A, J8/VA3MW, JA1TMG, KP2/KZ5D LU4FM, LX7I, LZ8E, M5E, OV2B, P40P, P49Y, PJ2/K3ND, PJ2T, PJ4G, PY1ON, PY0ZSB, PZ5TT, T30PY, T88UU, V31LJ, V31UZ, V4/AC0W, WP4OFO, YI1RZ, YW3T and Z81Z

QSLs RECEIVED VIA MAIL: 5U8NK, E77DX, FR/DJ7RJ, ISOHFE, PJ2/DL4JS, T30PY, TC0P, UA0ZAM/P, VK9HR, XP1A, XT2SE, YI1RZ and ZL9HR

QSLs RECEIVED VIA THE BUREAU: 4L1MA, 5H1Z, 7Z1HL, 9M6Z, 9M8/SM5GMZ, AA35YZ, BA7MG, BD1BYV, BD2SH/7, C21UF, C31KC, C50C, CE0Y/LA5UF, CT3/LA9DL, CT9/DH4JQ, CT9/DJ0IF, CY9M, CY0X, DX0M, E44PM, EA8/DL2DXA, F1IZL, FR5MV, HZ1FI, JW1RSA, JW6TMA, JW9DL, JW8HGA, OH0V, OJ0R, PJ2/DL4JS, PJ4J, S79DO, S79UFT, SV9CJO, SV9COL, SV9ZT, T32C, TT8PK, US5IFA, V31YK, V5/DJ4SO, V5/DK1CE, V55A, VK9DWX, VK9HR, VP2MXF, XF3LH, YJ0ANR, YJ0VK, YO3CZW, YP3A, Z60K, ZC4VJ, ZD8W and ZL8X

T2, TUVALU (Back on again and now active!)

No sooner than [OPDX.1103](https://www.opdx.com) was

sent out, word came out that operators Gavin/GM0GAV, Robert/GM3YTS and Tom/GM4FDM had to change their operating plans to Tuvalu because their outward flight from Glasgow was cancelled due to an undercarriage problem. This effected all their others flights they were due to catch, especially the connection from Fiji to Tuvalu. However when this happened, their fourth operator Clive, GM3POI, was already on route to Fiji and did continue onto Tuvalu while the other three operators were making plans to operate from Fiji. By Tuesday, Clive, GM3POI, made it to Tuvalu and was planning to operate using a rig (w/100 watts) and wire antennas. Then on Wednesday, their Blog reported that Gav/GM0GAV, Rob/GM3YTS and Tom/ GM4FDM were booked on a Saturday flight to Tuvalu. They were initially booked on a Thursday flight, however, since arriving in Fiji Monday, their luggage did not arrived and was still missing. The Saturday flight was their last chance of going to Tuvalu, but if no luggage by then they would return home. Then on March 14th, their luggage finally showed up. The three Scots were able to leave on Saturday, and by the time you read this, they should be on the air from [Funafuti Atoll \(OC-015\)](https://www.funafuti.gov.tv). For updates, watch the Web Blog page at:

<http://t2gm.org>

Activity should be 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. See suggested frequencies in

[OPDX.1103](#). If the InterNet is available, logs will be uploaded to ClubLog and LoTW. QSL Manager will be GM4FDM ([QRZ.com](#)), direct or by the Bureau. A OQRS will be available via ClubLog.

LAST MINUTE UPDATE: Activity from T2GM may be limited. Operators report, "On the flight to Tuvalu from Suva, Fiji, Rob's (GM3YTS) luggage was again lost. This bag contained band pass filters and coax, so antenna choice until Tuesday will be limited. (It's expected the missing luggage will arrive on the Tuesday flight). The team will QRT on Friday, March 22nd. at 1830z."

T2, TUVALU

A German team consisting of Rich/DK8YY, Detlef/DL3ALI and Ingolf/DL4JS will be active from the "Hideaway Guesthouse" on [Funafuti Atoll \(OC-015\)](#), the capital of the island nation of Tuvalu, between March 23rd and April 4th. They have requested the callsign T2YY and will receive the license upon their arrival. Activity will be on 80-10 meters, possibly 160m, using CW, SSB and RTTY. They plan on having two stations with amps using a Hexbeam for the HF bands and verticals for 80/40/30m. QSL via DH7WW.

T2, TUVALU (Reminder)

Tim, NL8F, is expected to be active from Tuvalu between March 19th and April 2nd. His callsign is not yet known, but he will obtain his license upon his arrival on Tuvalu. Activity will probably be mostly SSB. QSL via K8NA.

TO7, MAYOTTE

Hartwig, DL7BC, will once again be active as FH/DL7BC from [Mayotte \(AF-027\)](#) between March 26th and April 12th. Activity will be from Bruno's, DH1BL/FH4VOS, QTH. Operations will be on 80-10 meters plus participation in CQWW WPX SSB Contest signing TO7BC. QSL via his home call sign, direct or by the Bureau. For more details, visit his Web site at:

http://www.qslnet.de/member/dl7bc/en_TO7BC.htm

XR0, EASTER ISLAND (Reminder)

Just a reminder that a UK DXpedition team will be active as XR0YG from Easter Island (SA-001) between March 20-27th (see [OPDX.1090](#)). Activity will be on all bands 160-10 meters, mainly CW. Even though the operations will be on the HF bands, they also plan to work challenging paths on the low bands and with an emphasis on Europe. ClubLog and LoTW uploads will occur daily. The log search on ClubLog will be available at:

<https://secure.clublog.org/charts/?c=XR0YG>

There will also be OQRS available. QSL via G3TXF and LoTW. Visit their Web page at:

<http://xr0yg.com>

YE1, INDONESIA

Team members of the Bekasi Club Station (YE1ZAT) and the Jakarta Contest DX Team (YE0X) will be active as YE1K from [Bekasi \(OC-021, WLOTA 1660\)](#) during the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 30-31st) as a Multi-Multi entry. QSL via YE1ZAT.

UP-COMING CONTESTS (complete)

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

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

March 2013

+ CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 30 to 2400Z, Mar 31
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April 2013

+ Michigan QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 20 to 0400Z, Apr 21
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+ Ontario QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 20 to 1800Z, Apr 21
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Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2200Z, Apr 20
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ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	1800Z-2359Z, Apr 21
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Florida QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 27 to 2159Z, Apr 28
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The K7RA Solar Update

03/15/2013

Solar indicators were mixed this week, with the average daily sunspot number down 8.4 points to 84.9, while the average daily solar flux rose 5.9 points to 118.5. Geomagnetic indices were much quieter, with the average planetary A index down 4.7 points to 4.4 and the average mid-latitude A index down 5 points to 3.9. Sunspot numbers for March 7-13 were 80, 59, 63, 89, 105, 95 and 103, with a mean of 84.9. The 10.7 centimeter flux was 113.8, 115, 116.2, 119.2, 119.7, 123 and 122.9, with a mean of 118.5. The estimated planetary A indices were 4, 3, 6, 4, 5, 5 and 4, with a mean of 4.4. The estimated mid-latitude A indices were 2, 3, 6, 3, 4, 6 and 3, with a mean of 3.9.

The predicted solar flux for March 15-17 is 120, then down to 115 on March 18-19,

110 on March 20, 105 on March 21, 95 on March 22-24, 100 on March 25-26, 105 on March 27, 110 on March 28-31, 115 on April 1-3. After that, the solar flux peaks around 120 on April 4-11. The average for the predicted solar flux for the next five days -- March 15-19 -- is 118, right around the average of 118.5 for what we saw this past week. The predicted planetary A index on March 15-16 is 17 and 12, indicating more geomagnetic activity similar to what we saw March 1-2. The predicted planetary A index is 5 on March 17-20, 8 on March 21, 5 on March 22-27, 18 and 10 on March 28-29, and back down to 5 again for March 30-April 16.

At 0600 UTC on March 15, the Australian Space Forecast Centre reported that a sudden impulse of 22 nT (nanotesla) was detected in magnetometers at 0527 UTC. Due to a coronal mass ejection (CME), increased geomagnetic activity is predicted on March 15-16, and minor storm periods at high latitudes are possible. The M1 class solar flare and its accompanying CME were Earth-directed. Both came from sunspot group 1692, right in the center of the visible solar disc viewed from Earth.

In recent online articles about a possible double peak for Solar Cycle 24, it was mentioned that we would see the peak in late 2011 and another in 2013. But I noticed recently that solar physicist Dean Pesnell of NASA is suggesting something different: A peak in late 2013 and another in 2015. Check the last line of the first paragraph of this [article](#) posted on the ARRL website on March 14.

Robert Elek, W3HKK, of Johnstown, Ohio, sent these observations about the TX5K operation on Clipperton Island: "Kudos to the ops at TX5K! Their nifty web site has a world map, spotting of call signs, almost

instantaneous log updates, QSO totals and more. It even lets you see the propagation on a visual basis, call by call. I had not realized TX5K was on the air until the ARRL SSB DX Contest on March 2-3. Post-contest -- and after catching up on my sleep Sunday night and most of Monday -- I turned on the rig right after dinner, and TX5K was everywhere, and with big signals! I worked them on 12, 15, 17, 30, 40 and 160 meters, with many bands on both SSB and CW during an amazing three hour stretch of operating! I worked them so quickly, often on the very first or second call, and it was mind blowing; their pile ups were huge. It had to be a miracle of good timing, plus a little experience to boot."

Brian Alsop, K3KO, of Henderson, North Carolina, commented that "DXers shouldn't overlook VOACAP while chasing new ones." He sent a couple of circuit reliability plots from his location to ZL9CI (Campbell Island) and 9M4SLL on Spratly, noting that the times he worked them lined up with the predictions. "I recently downgraded to 500 W, a 2-element tri-bander at 40 feet and a rotary dipole for 30/17/12 meters at 42 feet; I need all the help I can get. Besides the DX cluster, knowing what paths at what time may be possible helps."

The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER

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