

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, May 19th** at 12:00 noon.

Where: The May 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:

16 June
No December meeting.

PICS FROM THE LAST MEETING





W6RFF celebrates his 91st birthday

2012-Officers

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

FROM THE PREZ

Everyone who's worked 706T raise their hand!

I did a quick check and noticed that several of our club's DX'ers have worked them and noted that, as of this writing, K6TA has them on 6 band-modes.

I've done some listening and have found the signals to be quite readable in the late afternoons and evenings on 20 and 17. I've also noticed that the traffic cops are some of the worst I've

ever heard and, for me, it just takes the fun out of the hunt. I already have Yemen confirmed, so I have stayed clear of the pileups so far.

As an ARRL Official Observer, I've never heard anyone I can identify acting as a traffic cop during a DXpedition or jamming a DXpedition. I suppose that's a good thing. The cops always seem to be somewhere else. I'd love to track them down, but it's nearly impossible. Best to just police ourselves and to remember the DX'ers Code of Conduct that N4AA and others have been trying so hard to promote. Along those lines, I have certainly forgotten to put the radio in split a time or two and I'm sure most DX'ers will admit same. We all really need to think before we light up the airwaves with our kilowatts, but is it possible that some of these cops have never made a mistake? Are they really that perfect?

So, the Yemen DXpedition may get me in the log if things quiet down a bit. I'd like to work them on 20. Perhaps this weekend I'll give it a try. I'm a contester first, and a DX'er second so, for me, it is not a do or die DXpedition.

600CW, on the other hand, is one that I am going to try real hard to work this coming weekend. If I work them, Somalia will be an all-time new one for me, making them number 320 in my log.

I'm still deep into the final stretch of a repeater re-build project for the El Dorado County club and that has

eaten up some of what would normally be quality DX'ing and contesting time. Hopefully, we will wrap up this project in June, allowing me to focus on towers, antennas, and working 'em.

The Joint Meeting is going to be one heck of a good time. We have settled on July 28th as the date and this will truly be a premier meeting between the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club, the Redwood Empire DX Association, and the Northern California Contest Club. All three clubs will be sharing the load equally. With the power of these three clubs working together, I guarantee that we will have some top-notch presentations. So, mark your calendars, and save up for the cost of a wonderful lunch and afternoon somewhere in the Fairfield area on July 28th.

Due to a speaker cancellation, we have deferred our Auburn meeting to later in the year. I hope to see you this month in Martel.

73 and good DX!

de Bob,W1RH

FROM THE VP

None this month.

Dana Phillips, N6DW

May 2012 Treasurer's Report

Balance February 28, 2012 \$1621.11

Income:	00.00
Expenses:	00.00

Balance May 1, 2012 \$1621.11

**Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD,
Treasurer**

**Tube of the Month de Norm, N6JV
Tube Of The Month**

UX-245 – 45

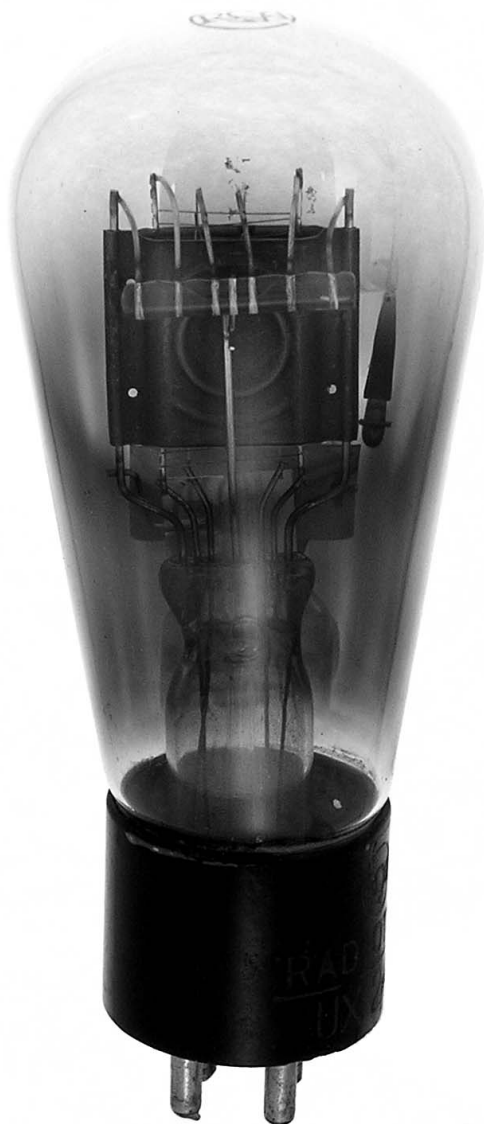
Depression Era AM Phone

In the late 1920s, AC operated radios became available after the hum problem from the AC filaments was solved. With AC power, more powerful radios that could drive a large speaker were possible. The need for audio output tubes that would handle the increased power resulted in a number of tubes being developed. In 1929 the UX-245 became popular in this application. In the early 1930s, the tube was renamed the 45 and became popular with hams just getting started. A 45 could usually be found in a dead broadcast radio and if the power transformer still worked, you were in business. This was the depression and few had any money for expensive equipment.

In 1934, my father and his best friend, who lived across the street, got their licenses. My father was Don, W6LLA and the neighbor was Albert, W6LID. Grandmother's bread pan was appropriated to serve as a transmitter chassis. A 45 tube and a coil were mounted and wired as an oscillator on 160 meters. This was as high as a 45 would operate as an RF oscillator. AM phone was the popular mode on 160

\$1578.85

in those days, but expensive modulation transformers weren't available. The cheap way was to add an extra link around the coil and run a twisted pair to the contacts of a carbon microphone. I understand the microphone was "borrowed" from a pay phone. This rig had an input of about 5 watts.



The link modulation from this set up wasn't very high and you had to use your "long distance" voice into the

microphone. If you got too excited and got too close to the microphone, you got RF burns on your lip. The RF also tended to fuse the carbon particles together inside the microphone, so when you weren't getting out well, you had to rap the microphone on the table and loosen up the carbon.

I got my middle name Albert from W6LID who died in 1939 in a boat sinking in Tulare Lake. Being named after the first LID has been offered as an explanation for my operating skills.

The low mu 45 tubes have become very popular with audio enthusiasts and somewhat expensive. Never give up on an 80 year old tube.

Visit the museum at N6JV.com
Norm, N6JV

Editor's Notes de Rick, W6SR

Hi All...

Not much radio activity since our last meeting, but I did catch the 70 on 17M PH & CW the first day they were on. But have yet to find them (where I can hear them) on 12 or 30M. Same luck with the 60 so far.

The DX Convention was, as always, lots of fun. But there has been a ton of other stuff going on around here. About six weeks ago we put our house on the NCCC website as a HAM QTH for sale. We received two responses, and as it turned out, one of the parties wanted it. So we are moving through

the escrow process with a tentative close date of 21 May. Yeah, that soon! We are actively looking for another place that we can handle, our 10 acres is way too much, and my three towers are for a younger operator that still has fire in their belly. Also Karen's knees are not getting any better, and walking around on our sloping property is now giving her lots of problems.

A bit of DXCC trivia.....

A quick check of the SK postings in this months QST revealed that Dr. Dave Gardner MD, K6LPL, went SK recently. So who was that, and what does it have to do with DXCC?

Those of you who are fossils (like me) will recognize his call, and what went down. For those who don't, K6LPL was a respected physician and surgeon, who was an active DXer, and team doctor on many rare DXpeditions of the 70's and early eighties.

Dave was a nice guy who was respected within the DX community, and honored by fellow members of the SCDXC, of which I still am a member, and was at this time.

Dave gave many guys "new ones", but apparently Dave also had a dark-side. In cahoots with a lesser-know SCDXCC member, they forged many deleted country cards then submitted them to the DXCC program for credit.

Then, possibly to discredit others at the top, or cover up the deed, they sent out many (unsolicited) bogus cards to long time DXCC members. The counterfeit cards confirmed contacts that had never occurred. This led to their un-doing, since there are many honest folks at the top of

the DXCC list, and they complained big-time. After an investigation by DXCC, the truth was uncovered, under pressure; Dave resigned from DXCC, and was removed from the SCDXC membership.

I guess Dave missed the point of being a DXer, since (it seems) he placed the value of getting ahead of the next guy on the DXCC list, *by any means*, above the chase.

Dave retained his amateur radio license until he passed, but was rarely on the air after this incident. So he slipped out of (DX and Contesting) sight, and into HAM radio obscurity.

Many would say that on a list of the all time infamous DXers; Dr. Don Miller, W9NNV would be #1, Romeo Stepanenko, UB5JRR (XY0RR and P5RS7) #2, and that Dave would make the list at # 3 or very close to it.

Enough for now, see you all at the meeting on the 19th.....**de Rick, W6SR**

Member news/feedback/Announcements And Items For Sale

Btw: I am up to 73 countries unconfirmed – but on LOTW de Kirby, AF6OP

Won the certificate for first place for North America in the 20 meter single band, High Power, Assisted class in the 2011 WPX CW contest.

Made 3,018,465 (claimed) in the CQ WPX Phone contest. High power, all band, assisted. de N6JV, Norm.....

T2T came today! 10,12,17.30,40

George, KI6CG

Greetings to the MLDXC from the WVDXC. !

I am writing to ask you to please add info on the 2012 Pacific Northwest DX Convention to your MLDXC website or newsletter (August 3-5, 2012), This year the convention will be in Portland, OR, and will be sponsored by the Willamette Valley DX Club.

I have attached a flyer, and the website link for the convention information is <http://www.wvdx.org/dxconvention>.

Tnx, 73 es gud DX! Mike Ritz, W7VO WVDXC Secretary

We had to look out the window at least twice in the past couple of months to see if indeed pigs were flying.

My list of countries needed on CW was getting down to a handful. I still need Heard Is, Glorioso & Tromelin for all time new, for instance. But the others seemed hopeless, too, IMO. Yemen, with its domestic situation and MacQuarie, seeming to work only VKs, were two of the 'needed' entities on that list. Then, as VK0TH was ending his stay at MacQuarie, he showed up on 10 CW one evening in early April. Worked!! (As a big bonus, we worked next day on RTTY...and as an even

bigger bonus, QSL was received from Japan a week or so later!!).

Next, DailyDX announces Yemen ready to go. Monday, not so good. Tuesday, worked 17 CW. Thursday, worked 15 CW. **de Dick, K6LRN**

Meeting Minutes, 17 March 2012.

President Bob, W1RH, called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM at Mountain Mike's Pizza, Martell, CA, with 12 members present.

Officers' Roll Call. Present were Bob, 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 25 February Secretary's minutes and Treasurer's report were approved as they appeared in the March *Nugget* newsletter.

QSTs, Memorabilia and News. Norm, N6JV, shared a scrapbook compiled by his mother, containing Norm's father's QSL cards for contacts made before World War II. Included were cards from PX6 Java, KA1 Philippines, K4 Puerto Rico, K5 Panama, KP1 Belize. It was noted that his dad had worked all states except

Delaware. Rich, WC6H, reported that the new tower would go up this weekend; the base had taken a full 10 yards of concrete, not 4.4 yards.

Special Achievements. It was noted that Jettie, W6RFF, celebrates his 91st birthday next week; the club helped him celebrate early with a cupcake and birthday greetings.

Recognition of Achievements. Bob, W1RH, attended the NCCC Awards Meeting in Mountain View, returning with certificates and plaques, where appropriate, for the club members participating in NCCC-supported contests. NCCC awards were distributed to Dick, K6LRN, and W1RH for RU-500; Jim, WX6V, for Split Station Operator – Special Recognition, ARRL DX; Rich, WC6H, for a 400K Point Station – Special Recognition, 400K Point Individual Effort – Special Recognition and KB-3000; Rick, W6SR, for Shared Station Host – Special Recognition and KB-1000; Bob, W1RH, for KB-1000; and George, KI6CG, and Dana, N6DW, for KB-500.

OLD BUSINESS.

Update on the Joint Meeting. Bob, W1RH, reported that REDXA has expressed an interest in joining us for the July joint meeting. Additional information should be forthcoming from NCCC regarding their participation as well.

Future Meeting Dates and Venues.

No meeting will be held in April since most members will be attending the IDXC in Visalia. The 19 May meeting will be held somewhere in the Roseville area; Dana, N6DW, will research possible venues. The 16 June meeting will be held in Walnut Grove; Brandt, K6BEW, has confirmed Wimpie's for 25 people. The July joint meeting will be on hold until word has been received regarding the NCCC interest. The 25 August meeting will be held in Shingle Springs at the new Colina de Oro; directions to the new venue will be provided closer to the meeting date.

Future Meeting Presentations.

Members were still in favor of viewing some of the older videos of past DX-peditions in the NCDXF library, whenever no previous plans for presentations have been made, or if speakers cannot make a scheduled meeting. A tower tour has been planned for the June meeting in Walnut Grove. Rick, W6SR, and Norm, N6JV, are scheduled for a presentation on antenna design at the August meeting. Speakers are being researched for the July joint meeting.

NEW BUSINESS.

Request for Donations. The club has received an e-mail request from the upcoming Swains Island DXpedition for a donation of \$500. Rather than send donations to separate

DXpeditions, we send an annual donation to the NCDXF in support of foundation-funded DXpeditions. Bob, W1RH, will send a reply stating same to the requestor.

ND6S	RAY	SUTTER CREEK	X	X
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Kay Anderson, K6KO

Secretary

Adjournment and Program Presentation. The meeting was adjourned at 12:5 PM. The NCDXF video on the November 2006 5A7A DXpedition to Libya followed a short break.

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

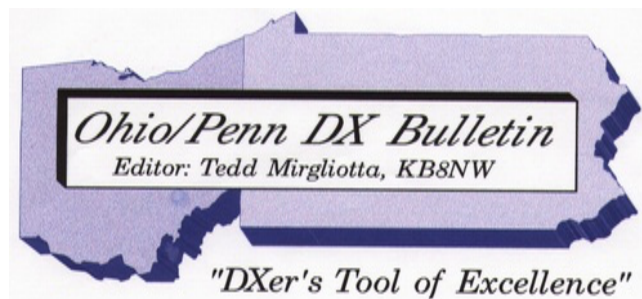
<http://mldxcc.org/scores.html>

UP-COMING DX and Dxpeditons
Click the link below to display up-coming Announced DXpeditions:

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

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
W1RH	BOB	LOTUS	X	X
AA6K	SHIRL	STOCKTON	X	X
K6TKD	CAROLYN	OMO RANCH	X	X
K6LRN	DICK	OMO RANCH	X	X
K6BEW	BRANDT	JACKSON	X	X



OPDX Bulletin 1062
 May 14, 2012

The Ohio/Penn Dx PacketCluster
 DX Bulletin No. 1062
 BID: \$OPDX.1062
 May 14, 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

4X, ISRAEL

Dutch operators Jaap/PA7DA and Luc/PA9LUC will be active as 4X/homecall between May 16-

30th. Activity will be mainly on 10, 6 and 2 meters. The WW-LOCs will be KM72nx and on May 22nd, KM71jw. Operations on the lower bands will be possible. QSL via the Dutch Bureau. For updates, check the Blog page:

<http://dutch-4x-team.blogspot.com>

5X, UGANDA (Update)

Freddy, F5IRO/J28RO, who is here on a work assignment through June, has applied for the callsign 5X5RO, with the help of David, 5X1D (KH9AE), and is now active. Freddy states, "The station is quite ready to be set up; just some work on the vertical antenna to finish it." His station is a Elecraft K3 using verticals or dipoles. Activity will be on CW on the upper HF bands, especially on 10 MHz in the evening (5X = GMT + 3) and possibly some PSK operations. Watch the DXClusters for spots. He was spotted on 30 and 15 meters this past week (21013 and 10131 kHz). QSL is via Michel, F8DFP, by the French Bureau or direct (w/SAE and IRC). For more updates and info, watch Freddy's Blog page at:

<http://j28ro.blogspot.com>

6O, SOMALIA

A team of Italian operators, active as 6O0CW from Galkayo will go QRT on May 18th. As of 2035z, May 12th, their log show that they have made a total of 33013 QSOs with 12808 unique callsigns (14135/SSB, 14824/CW and 4054/RTTY). QSL via I2YSB, direct or by the OQRS. For more details, visit their Web page at:

<http://www.i2ysb.com/joomla5>

A forum for the 6O0CW operation is available at:

<http://www.hamradioweb.net>

6O, SOMALIA (Update to [OPDX.1059](#))

Darko, J28AA/E70A, will once again be active as 6O3A from Hargeisa between May 25-31st. Activity will be on SSB, RTTY and 50 MHz. He also plans to be in the CQWW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL via K2PF or E77E. For possible updates (under news), online log, and pictures,

check out the Bosnia and Herzegovina Contest Club's Web page [BHCC] at:

<http://bhcc.ba>

Also look on [QRZ.com](http://qrz.com) under 6O3A.

6O, SOMALIA (6O3A Press Release #2, dated May 12th)

Paul Ewing/N6PSE, from "The Intrepid-DX Group", reports:

"Due to the recent activation of Somalia by the 6O0CW group, the Intrepid-DX Group has decided to cancel our previously announced plans to conduct a DXpedition in November 2012, as 6O3A. We feel that the need for 6O contacts has been sufficiently diminished to make it worth-while to continue with our plans. In the coming days we will refund 100% of all donations made to us. We hope to make other rare activations for 2013. Our friend, Darko Rusman-E70A continues to hold the 6O3A license and will be active from time to time from Somaliland.... Thank you, Paul N6PSE, The Intrepid-DX Group"

7O6, YEMEN

The international team of operators active as 7O6T from [Socotra Island \(AF-028\)](#) will go QRT at 2100z, May 15th. New team members arrived on May 9th. They are Dave/K3LP, Jeff/K1ZM and Andrey/LZ2HM. On the same flight, operators Vlad/R7LV, Andrew/UA3AB, Paul/N6PSE and Harry/ RA3AUU returned back home. It was mentioned that the team does NOT have 6 meter privileges, so all 50 MHz operations are the work of a PIRATE. Also, on Sunday, May 13th, the 7O6T requests, "We would like to ask Europeans not to make 3rd or 4th QSO on RTTY just to fill another Club Log band/mode spot. Give a chance to others!"

The 7O6T log shows (per ClubLOG dated May 13th, at 0236z): 136373 Total QSOs and 33401 with Unique Calls. Mode breakdown: 71151/CW, 61541/SSB and 3708/RTTY. Continent breakdown: 960/AF, 0/ANT, 18249/AS, 87701/EU, 27144/NA, 1127/OC and 1192/SA.

QSL via UA3DX. More details about OQRS/Direct/Bureau/LoTW will be available during the course of DXpedition. The 706T Web page and Twitter page are available at:

<http://www.yemen2012.com/index.php>
<https://twitter.com/#!/7o6t>

BS7, SCARBOROUGH REEF (Disputed)

BBC reports, "Several hundred protesters waved flags and placards at the Chinese embassy in Manila, calling for China to withdraw its ships from a South China Sea shoal..... The two countries have been locked in a stand-off in disputed waters at the Scarborough Shoal since 8th April." Read the whole article at:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-18030805>

CQ PRESS RELEASE (From Richard, W2VU)

"CQ INTRODUCES FULL-COLOR 'DX WORLD GUIDE' IN PRINT AND ON CD -- (Hicksville, NY - May 8, 2012)
CQ Communi- cations, Inc., today announced the publication of the third edition of the DX World Guide, by Franz Langner, DJ9ZB. This 384-page DXer's guidebook is the first edition using color throughout and the first to be entirely in English. The book includes entries for well over 300 DX 'entities'. Information includes geographical information about each country, WAZ and ITU zones, ITU callsign allocations and amateur prefixes. Each listing also includes a map and flag, plus information on the country's licensing agency and national amateur radio society. In addition, as appropriate, listings include call areas, IOTA (Islands on the Air) information and representative QSL cards. The DX World Guide, 3rd edition, will be available in both print and digital (CD) formats. It will retail for 42.95 USDs in print and 22.95 USDs on CD. A limited number of print editions are expected to be available from the CQ booth at the 2012 Dayton Hamvention® (Main arena, booths 74 & 75), with general availability after

Memorial Day. Advance orders are being accepted via the CQ Online Bookstore

<http://store.cq-amateur-radio.com/StoreFront.bok>

or by phone at (800) 853-9797."

CY0, SABLE ISLAND

Al, VE1AWW, who has been active as CY0/VE1AWW as of April 17th, and will be there for about the next two months, reports on May 11th: "The 40-80-160 antenna is dead. I won't be replacing it anytime soon. I can work 30m (PSK 31) 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10m. I will soon have a 6m beam as well." Remember, his activity will be limited to his spare time as he is there to work. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the Bureau.

D2, ANGOLA

Craig, MM0SSG, is now active as D2SG from Luanda and will be there until around October 31st. Activity will be limited because he is there on a work assignment on an off-shore oil platform. Operations will only take place when he is on land. Reported QSNs show activity has been on 10 meters CW. QSL via GM4FDM, direct or by the Bureau.

DAYTON HAMVENTION DX HOSPITALITY SUITE

The Northern Ohio DX Association (along with Janeen Hire, W8ZET) will once again sponsor a Hospitality Suite (16th year) at this year's Dayton Hamvention. It will be in Suite 1011 on the 10th floor of the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings (Look for signs!). All DXers/Contesters are welcome. Munchies and refreshments will be available. Come and meet the members and friends of NODXA.

DXCC NEWS (Card Checker and 160 Meters)

Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL Awards Branch Manager, reports:

"In order to facilitate retrieval of DXCC card checkers for the DXCC, WAS, VUCC and WAC programs besides the individual search feature

on the DXCC web site, I have also posted a link to a file called DXCC Card Checker Master. This link will take you to the complete list of card checkers worldwide. In addition, an added purpose for this file is to help you locate a card checker near you that is authorized to check 160 Meters.

Remember, all checkers can now check deleted entities but certain restrictions still apply to 160 meters, as follows:

In the attached file you'll see entries that are in 'BOLD/RED'. These checkers are authorized to check 160 Meter cards. As per the new rule only card checkers with an active 160 Meter DXCC award account are authorized to verify 160 Meters. If your card checker is not noted in 'bold/red' please do not take 160 Meter cards for them to check. In addition to the 'bold/red' a notation of '160M' is noted next to their callsign in superscript which also notes this permission.

Please see this link which will take you to the master list:

<http://www.arrl.org/dxcc-card-checker-master-1>

The search feature to do a search by your state or country for your local card checker is still available, but at this time there is no note that indicates they are eligible to check 160 Meters:

<http://www.arrl.org/dxcc-card-checker-search>

E4 , PALESTINE

As your editor was preparing this week's bulletin, well-known world traveller Vladimir, UA4WHX, who was recently in Jordan as JY8VB, surprised everyone Sunday morning showing up as E40VB from Palestine on 12 meters. As always, his length of stay is unknown. QSL via his home callsign.

EUFF GREEN PARTY 2012 (Field Day Operations)

The YOFF team of the SRR (Romanian Society of Radioamateurs) and the ARER (Romanian Association of Environmentalists Radioamateurs) invite all the radio amateurs to join them in the EUFF Green Party 2012.

Purpose: To stimulate the ham operators to leave their house and be involved in portable/outdoor operations related to the nature and ecology, and to familiarize the world-wide radio amateurs with protected natural areas. Dates: 0600-1759z, June 9th. For complete details, see:

<http://wff-yo.blogspot.com>

FS, FRENCH ST. MARTIN

John, K9EL, will once again be active from French **St. Martin (NA-105)**, DIFO FS-001, WLOTA 0383, Grid Loc. FK88) between June 8-24th. Activity will be holiday style (on a family vacation) and he will be operating as FS/K9EL whenever possible. He will be using an IC7000 and verticals for 80-10 meters, a 3 element yagi for 6 meters and will be operating on CW, SSB, and he plans to put an emphasis on RTTY this trip. He will also bring an amplifier with him to better his signal on 6 meters. John states,

"Schedules are welcome and QSL to my home call. I will also attempt to do daily uploads to Club Log and LoTW. Part of the trip will include planning for 160 meter antennas as I plan to operate 160 in November as part of my planned CQWW CW participation."

IOTA DXPEDITION (Postponed!)

Rick, K6VVA, has announced that his "IOTA DXpedition (**NA-175**, NA-050 and NA-004) has now been rescheduled for hopefully better propagation during 2013. The far Northern Latitude has additional propagation factor complications, so in considering the total Big Picture involved, a QRX was deemed necessary to maximize possibilities for all IOTA Chasers to make QSOs." His new target date is in July 2013. Stay tuned for more details on his "KL7 North Slope IOTA EXTRAVAGANZA!!!", by watching the Web page at:

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

Also, check TWITTER at:

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

IOTA DXPEDITIONS TOUR

Operators Peter OT9Z/ON8ZZ, Dominiek/ON3JA and Frederik/ON3NT will be

active as MU/OT9Z from **Guernsey (EU-114, WLOTA 0013)** between July 16-20th. During their stay on Guernsey, they plan to activate the following islands (all EU-114): July 17th - Herm Island; July 18th - Sark Island (WLOTA 0944) and July 19th - Alderney Island (WLOTA 0198).

The group will then head south to France and be active as F/OT9Z from **Chausey Island (EU-039, DIFM MA004, WLOTA 0424)** between July 27-29th. They plan to be an entry in the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 28-29th) using the special callsign TM7T. QSL all operations via OT9Z.

IOTA NEWS

EU-008. Members of the Wessex Contest Group will be active as MS0WCB, MQ0WCB and possibly their own callsigns, from the Isle of Skye (IOSA NH07, SCOTIA CN14, WLOTA 1626, WAB NG47, WW Loc. IO67UQ) between now and May 19th. Operators mentioned are Steve/G0FUW, Simon/M0TTE, Dave/M0SFT and Dan/M0TGN. Activity will be on 80-15 meters SSB. QSL direct (see QRZ.com), eQSL or via M0WAY. More information is available at their Web site at:

<http://www.mx0wcb.com>

EU-008. [Correction] Glyn, GW0ANA, will be operating as GM0ANA (not GW0ANA) during a "Micro DX-Pedition" from **Gigha Island**, Inner Hebrides, Scotland, between May 21-27th. Activity will be on SSB, RTTY, PSK and SSTV. QSL via GW0ANA, direct QTHR or by the Bureau.

EU-020. Tetsu, JH8SGR, will be active as SM1/JH8SGR from **Gotland Island** between June 11-13th. He will use 500 watts into wirebeam antennas. QSL via his home callsign.

EU-032. Members of the Beniteam DX Group will be on the air from **Oleron Island** using the special callsign TM12O (Tango Mike Twelve Oscar) between May 18-20th. Operators mentioned are Javier/EA2DXR, Javier/EA2JB, Julio/EA2KK, Juan/EA2RC, YL Merche/EA2TT and Antonio/EA2VE. Activity

will be on 80-10 meters with three stations using SSB and RTTY. They will be ready to work also on 6 meters if the band is open. QSL via EA2TT.

EU-039. (Update) Members of the Charente DX Group (CDXG) will be active as TM0CI from **Chausey Island** (DIFM MA 004) between May 19-25th. Operators mentioned are F5MNK, F5LOW, F6HKA and ON4ZD (OS0S). Activity will be on 80-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. They will have three stations on the air. QSL via F5EOT, by the Bureau and direct (Postage or Mail with Paypal). For updates, watch the CDXG Web page at:

<http://www.frag33.org/www.cdxg.org>

EU-043. Operators Sten/SM6MIS, Rick/SM6U, Bengt/SM6UQL, Tomas/SM6XMY, Pierre/SB6A, Christer/SM6V and Janne/SM6YOF will be active as 7S6W from **Vinga Island** (WLOTA 1517, SMFF-3495, SWA-163) between May 17-20th. Activity will begin during the afternoon of May 17th, through their departure at 1200z on Sunday, May 20th. They plan to have 3 stations, each with 1 kW amplifiers, using mostly SSB, with some CW and RTTY. QSL via info on [ORZ.com](http://www.orz.com). For information and updates, visit:

<http://sm6.se/7s6w>

EU-049. Fred, PA1FJ, is now active as SV8/PA1FJ/P from the **Samos Island**, Greece, until May 17th. Activity will be on 40-10 meters SSB. QSL via his home callsign.

EU-112. Members of the GMDX Group (Scotland's DX Association) plan to be active as GB5SI from **Shiant Isles (House Island)** (between Isles of Lewis and Skye on Scotland's NW Coast) between June 15-22nd. Operators mentioned are Jim/MM0BQI, Gordon/MM0GPZ, Doug/GM0ELP, Philip/GM0LIR, Iain/GM0OQV, Brian/GM0EGI, William/GM4ZNC and possibly others. Activity will be on 80-6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via MM0BQI.

EU-120. Operators Kev/M0TNX and Martin/M3POG will once again be active as

GB2HI from **Hilbre Island** between May 17-20th. Kev states that they are there to celebrate his 45th birthday (May 18th), and to give out QSOs for the Island to anyone who needs it. Activity will be on 40-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. If 80 meters is possible, it will be a full size kite supported vertical over 1.2 km of radials! This year's Digital activity will take place thanks to Alan, M0AQC, who donated one of his super, low cost interfaces. QSL via M0OXO. They will upload the log to LoTW and E-QSL. For more details and updates, watch:

<http://www.gb2hi.co.uk>

Also, watch a short video on [QRZ.com](http://www.qrz.com) of their operation last year.

EU-141. Operators Helmut/DL5DSM and Bernhard/DL9UBF will be active as LA/homecall from **Vardo Island** (WLOTA 0106) between May 15-23rd. They also plan a side trip to Hornoya Island (EU-141, WLOTA 2751) using the callsigns LA/homecall/p. Activity will be on the HF bands using all modes and 100 watts and GP antennas. QSL via their home callsigns, by the Bureau or direct.

EU-157. Operators Gil/F4FET Gil, Vincent/F4BKV, Eric/F4FJH and Diego/F4HAU Diégo will be active as TM0CEZ from islands in the **Bretagne Region IOTA Group** sometime between June 24th and July 7th. The dates will depend on the weather conditions. Islands mentioned are Cezembre Island (DIFM MA008), Harbour Island (DIFM MA025) and Agot Island (DIFM MA009). They will have antennas for 20/17/15/10 meters. They request that you only make one QSO. NO MULTIPLE BAND QSOs because they will only be on for 12-22 hours. QSL via F5CWU. For more details, see the TM0CEZ Web site at:

<http://tm0cez.webs.com>

NA-092. Dave, AC0QG, will once again be active as AC0QG/5 from **South Padre Island** (USI TX007S, Cameron County, TX) between June 18th and July 13th. Activity will be on the HF bands, on or near the usual island and IOTA

frequencies. QSL via his home callsign, direct, LoTW or eQSL.

NA-128. Members of the "NA-128 Contest Group" will activate the special callsign VX2I from **Ile Verte** (CISA QC-015, Grid FN58, ARLHS CAN-244, WLOTA 1404) between July 26-29th. The group will be a Multi-Single entry in the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 28-29th), and will have many stations on from the lighthouse keeper's quarters. Activity will be on all bands using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK63 before and after the contest. A station will be dedicated on 6m. The group will operate ONLY on SSB and CW, and on 80/40/20/15/10 meters DURING the contest. QSL via VE2CQ. For more details, see:

<http://www.qsl.net/na128cg>

NA-144. Operators Jeff/W6UX, Rich/AE6RS, Steven/K6SGH, Kenan/KR6J, John/KQ6ES and Tim/N6GP will be active as W6UX/p from **Anacapa Island** during the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 28-29th). QSL via W6UX.

J48/SV8, GREECE (IOTA Op)

Laci, HA0HW, will once again be active as J48HW and SV8/HA0HW from **Thassos Island (IOTA: EU-174, GIOTA: NAS-037, MIA: MG-124, WLOTA: LH-4186, QRA: KN20HS)** between May 24th and June 3rd. He will operate mainly CW, with some SSB, RTTY and PSK31 as well, on the HF bands (mainly on 40/30/20/17 meters) and on 6 meters. He will enter the CQWW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power using the callsign J48HW. His rigs are a FT-840 with a MOS-FET amplifier (300-400 watts) and an IC-706 (for 6m only). Antennas are a monoband Gps and dipoles on fishing poles. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the HA Bureau.

P4, ARUBA

Operators Michal/OK7MT, Vit/OK5MM and Petr/OK2PP will be active as P4/homecall and P40H from Carl's, P49V, "Cook's Radio Retreat"

<http://www.p49v.com>

on **Aruba (SA-036)** between May 17-31st. Activity will include the CQWW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th). QSL via OK7MT,

by the Bureau or direct. Later they will post logs on LoTW too.

QSL INFO AND NEWS

QSL-INFO from DB0SDX (dated May 13th)

2Q0IJK via M0OXO ER52MOM via ER3BI
RP67GS via RK9JYY 40/OK1IEC via OK1IEC
GQ0BNR via G0BNR RP67KK via RX1CQ
40/OK4ZW via OK1UZW GQ0RPM via G0RPM
RP67LL via RA9LL 5X5RO via F8DFP
GQ4GIR via G4GIR RP67MB via RZ3FR
AO3EU via EA3RKF HB0/IN3ADW via IN3ADW
RP67M via UA4LU AO4EU via EA3RKF
HB0/IN3HUU via IN3HUU RP67ON via RZ3LC
AO5EU via EA3RKF HB100FLP via HB9OCR
RP67TG via UA9APA AO6EU via EA3RKF
HS85RI via E21EIC RP67W via RK3QWW
AO7EU via EA3RKF JY8VB via UA4WHX
RP67YM via UA3YAA AO8EU via EA3RKF
JY9ET via M0OXO SD7N/6 via DL2RNS
AX8NSB via M0URX LZ67VZ via LZ1ZF
SN45CHBW via SP4OIP BD7ANX via BA4EG
MQ0CEF via DL2LFH SP/CT1CJJ via CT1CJJ
BW2/JP1RIW via BM2JCC
OH1ZAA/VP9 via OH1VR TK1A via IT9YVO
CS5FAT via CT6ARL OV5T via M0TRN
VP5/KE1B via KE1B EF7NL via EA7NL
P4/JA3DFM via JA3DFM W1B via NG1G
EG5TC via EA5GUQ PA/DK1YY via DK1YY
W3STX/KH0 via JR3STX EH6ITU via EA6AZ
PD6MILL via PD7BZ W7F via AI4U
EM80L/A via US0LW PJ7AZ via DL2AAZ
XV4Y via OK1DOT (d) EO67JP via UU4JXI
R1945HS via RW6HS (d)
YP15ARDF via YO7KFX EO67J via UU2JT
RP67FA via RK3FWI
(d) direct only (B) Bureau only (L)
LoTW

NEW QSL MANAGER. As of May 9th, Buzz, NI5DX, is the new QSL Manager for Wayne, **ZL2WL**. Once the log file is transferred, Buzz will be able to confirm past contacts with ZL2WL, as well as any future QSOs. QSL cards will need to be printed, so please be patient and allow 6 weeks for the cards to be delivered. Wayne is very happy that his contacts will now be able to be confirmed with a QSL card. He has not sent out cards since his wife, ZL2MAB, became a SK last November, as she handled the QSL duties.

PR2I (SA-024 and SA-071) QSL STATUS. Fred, IK7JWX, informs that there are many problems and he hopes to send all QSLs out soon. He is sorry for the delay.

SU9VB AND LoTW. Vladimir, UA4WHX, announced on May 9th: "Important! LoTW -- I have currently indefinitely totally discontinued uploading any newer latest QSOs until the system is slightly more manageable and more user logical and friendly." For QSLs, see QRZ.com under SU9VB.

QSL RECEIVED VIA LoTW: 7Q7PRO, EA3NE, GS3PYE/P, LU5FF, PJ4/OK7M, PZ5RA, TO3X, VA7PX, VK5BC/P, VP2V/NY6X and YJ0VK

QSLs RECEIVED VIA MAIL: 3B8/SP2FUD, 3DA0NW, 4L0A, 9L0W, C6AKQ, C91NW, CE9VPM, DP0GVN, DP0GVN/A, E51BKV, E51M, EA9AI, FK/I2GPT, GR100MGY, HC2/W7SE, HL1IWD, LU1ZI, PJ2T, T88ZO, TO4M, TT8ES, V25AA, VK0TH, VP9/W6PH, XV1X, YN2NW, ZF2OE and ZK2C

QSLs RECEIVED VIA THE BUREAU: 5R8FT, 8Q7ZZ, DT8A and VP8SDX

SILENT KEY

It is sad to report that Larry Gandy, AH8LG, became a Silent Key (SK) on May 8th. Tets, AH7C, reports, "He was one of the most active DXer and contester on the island. He also took care of very many DXers that were not only just visiting there but also going to other Pacific islands for DXpeditions. We lost a big star in the Pacific." OPDX and its readers would like to send out our deepest sympathy to his wife Uti/KS6FO, and the family and friends of AH6LG.

SV5, DODECANESE

Operators Roberto/I2RNJ and Piero/IK2IHY will be active as SV5/homecall from **Rhodes Island (EU-001)** between August 4-11th. Activity will be holiday style but on SSB only. Bands of operations were not mentioned, but they will use an IC-706 w/100w into a Multi-

band dipole. QSL via their home callsigns and by the Bureau.

TF, ICELAND

Operators Bill/W4TAA and Pete/VE3IKV will be active as TF/VX3T from the south coast of Iceland between June 17-30th. Activity will be 6 meters CW and SSB from Grid HP83SU (and possibly some other grids) with 100 watts into a 8 element yagi. They will be looking for SSSP propagation to JA in the mornings and for Es or AuEs to North America at other times. The VX3T special callsign and prefix commemorates the 100th anniversary of the world-famous Calgary Stampede. QSL via VE3IKV direct.

TX5, CLIPPERTON ISLAND (Operation Back On)

The Cordell Expeditions is pleased to announce a DXpedition to Clipperton Island in early 2013. The team of 24 will sail from San Diego on February 19th (2013), and will be active from Clipperton for 10 days starting around March 1st. They will be active on all bands and all modes, and will use DXA, the satellite-linked system that displays near-real-time log data on any Web browser. They state, "We invite your participation in this project, as a team member, supporter, or callsign in our log!" The Clipperton Island Web page is at:

<http://www.cordell.org/CI/index.html>

V8, BRUNEI

Members of the Mediterraneo DX Club will sponsor/plan another DXpedition, this time to Brunei (OC-088). The multi-national team (90% of the team operated during the 9N7MD DXpedition) will be active as V84SMD between November 13-22nd. Activity will be on 160-10 meters, including the 30/17/12 meter bands, using CW, SSB and RTTY. They plan to have 15 to 18 operators with 4 to 5 stations on the air 24 hours.

Their equipment will be Icom 7000s and Elecraft K2s. Antennas will be 3 Spiderbeam (5 bands), 80m vertical full size, inverted L for

160m, vertical for 40m, vertical dipole for 30m and beverages for receiving.

The operators mentioned are Henri/F1HRE, Michel/F5EOT, Jean-Luc/F6BIV, Gabriele/I2VGW, Pino/I8YGZ, Fabio/IK2LTR, Marco/IZ2GNQ, Antonio/IZ8CCW, Eric/ON7RN, UZ2HKC, Roslan/V85AVE, Nizam/V85AX, Mohammad/V85TX and Bimbo/YB3MM. QSL via IK2VUC, direct, by the Bureau or the OQRS. Logs will be uploaded to LoTW 4-5 months after the activity. A Web page is under construction and will be online soon at:

<http://www.mdxc.org/v84smd>

VP5, TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

Operators Rich/KE1B and YL Anna/W6NN are now active as VP5/homecall from **Providenciales (NA-002)** until May 17th. Activity will be holiday style on 40-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. There will be 6 meter operations if the band is open. They are running 100 watts to a Buddipole. QSL via their home callsigns, direct or by the Bureau. All logs are uploaded to LoTW and eQSL.

XZ, MYANMAR (Update to OPDX.1037/1060)

Simon, HS0ZIB/G6JFY, announced that he will be in Myanmar this Monday. Activity will be on SSB, and possibly PSK. Simon states, "My current transmissions are very sporadic because I am still commuting back and forth between Thailand and Myanmar. I understand that free accommodation is being arranged for me in Kawthaung (better be atop the big hill), and once I have an established QTH I'll be able to bring in more radio gear and build some better antennas. QSL cards are almost at the printer (meaning that Gennady has my initial image files, but I haven't yet given him the go-ahead to print)." For more details, updates, an online log search and QSL info, please visit his Web and Twitter pages at:

<http://www.xz1k.org>
<https://twitter.com/#!/xz1k>

ZA, ALBANIA

Tevfik, TA1HZ, will once again be active as ZA1TC from Durres between August 1-7th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using a Kenwood TS570D, FD-4 Multi-Band Windom antenna and 80m dipole. Operations also include an entry in the European HF Championship. During his spare time from the contest, he will may try to work some PSK31, especially on 30 meters. More details and QSL info are available on QRZ.com and the TCSWAT Web page.

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!)

QST de W1AW Propagation Forecast Bulletin 19 ARLP019 From Tad Cook, K7RA Seattle, WA May 11, 2012

To all radio amateurs SB PROP ARL ARLP019 ARLP019 Propagation de K7RA.

Average daily solar flux for the past week rose slightly, 116.2 to 119, but average daily sunspot numbers declined more than 14 points (about 13%) to 92.6.

Predicted solar flux for the near term is quite a bit higher than the average for the past week. Solar flux on May 11-18 is 130, and then it drops sharply to 110 on May 19-22, 115 on May 23-25, 110 on May 26, 105 on May 27-31, 110 on June 1-2, and 115

on June 3-10.

Predicted planetary A index is 12 on May 11-12, 10 on May 13, 5 on May 14-18, 8 and 10 on May 19-20, 15 on May 21-23, 8 on May 24, 5 on May 25 through June 4, 12 on June 5-6, 18, 10 and 5 on June 7-9, 8 on June 10-11, then 5, 8, 5, 8 and 10 on June 12-16, and 15 on June 17-19.

UP-COMING CONTESTS (complete)

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

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

May 2012

- + NCCC RTTY Sprint 0130Z-0200Z, May 4
- + NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, May 4
- + Microwave Spring Sprint 0600-1300 local, May 5
- + 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
- + NCCC RTTY Sprint 0130Z-0200Z, May 11
- + NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, May 11
- + 50 MHz Spring Sprint 2300Z, May 12 to 0300Z, May 13
- + EU PSK DX Contest 1200Z, May 19 to 1200Z, May 20
- + Feld Hell Sprint 1600Z-1800Z, May 19
- + Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0100Z-0300Z, May 21
- + NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, May 25
- + CQ WW WPX Contest, CW 0000Z, May 26 to 2359Z, May 27

June 2012

+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 1
+ Maritime QSO Party	1200Z, Jun 2 to 0300Z, Jun 3
+ Alabama QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 2 to 0400Z, Jun 3
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 8
+ ARRL June VHF QSO Party	1800Z, Jun 9 to 0300Z, Jun 11
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 15
+ All Asian DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Jun 16 to 2400Z, Jun 17
+ SARL Youth Day Sprint	0700Z-1100Z, Jun 16
+ AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1659Z, Jun 16 (144) and 1700Z-1759Z, Jun 16 (432)
+ West Virginia QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 16 to 0200Z, Jun 17
+ Kid's Day Contest	1800Z-2359Z, Jun 16
+ Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2200Z, Jun 16
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 18
+ Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z, Jun 23 to 1400Z, Jun 24
+ ARRL Field Day	1800Z, Jun 23 to 2100Z, Jun 24

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The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER

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