

# The Nugget



## Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

### The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

#### **MEETING DATE, LOCATION & PROGRAM**

**When:** The September meeting of the Mother Lode DX / Contest Club will be held Saturday 22 August at 11:30AM.

**Where:**

Los Pinos in Cameron Park, CA. Los Pinos is located at 3420 Palmer Drive in Cameron Park.

See the club's website at <http://www.mldxcc.org/> and click on "meetings" for a map and more information.

**What:**

We will be showing the MMOARI/p video at the September meeting.

This 50+ minute presentation shows the difficulty getting to, onto and returning from Rockall Island. I suggest reading the Wikipedia entry online for background info...and, if so inclined, click on the reference to the Rockall song toward the end of the article. Dick, K6LRN.

**2012 Meeting Dates:**

**22 September  
No December meeting.**

**2012-Officers**

**President – Bob, W1RH  
Vice President – Dana, N6DW**

Secretary – Kay, K6KO  
Treasurer – Carolyn, K6TKD  
Director – Ray, ND6S  
Director – Shirl, AA6K

**WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS**



**James Marshall, K6OLY,  
[jmarshall1945@yahoo.com](mailto:jmarshall1945@yahoo.com) (that's  
"ell-ell-one")**

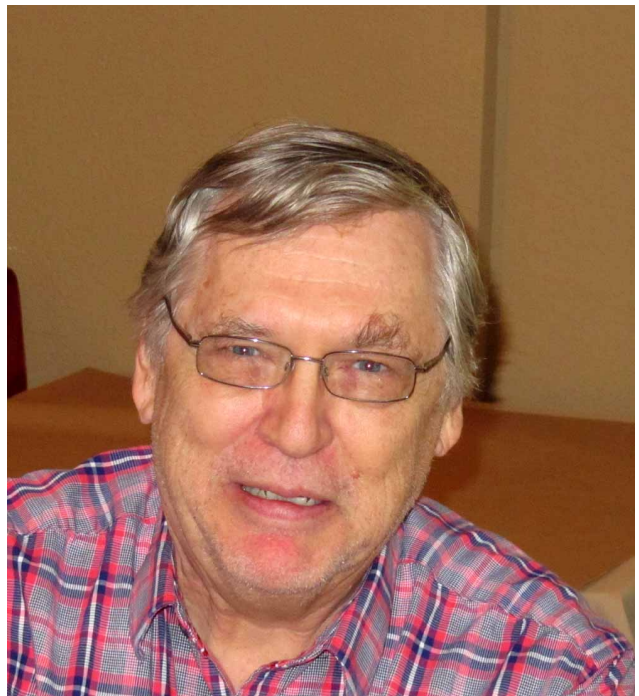


**Verne Terwilliger, W6VMT,  
[w6vmt@arrl.net](mailto:w6vmt@arrl.net)**

**PICS FROM THE AUGUST MEETING**



**OUR GROUP DOING WHAT HAMS LOVE TO DO,  
EAT!!**



**BOB, K3EST RECENTLY RETIRED CQWW  
CONTEST DIRECTOR. THAT HOPEFULLY NOW  
HAS TIME TO ATTEND MORE MLDXCC  
MEETINGS.**



**TREY, N5KO CAME ALONG WITH BOB K3EST "AS A VISITOR". THOSE OF YOU WHO DON'T KNOW HIM, MUST NOT WORK MANY CONTESTS OR DXPEDITIONS.**



**BOB, W1RH TELLING US HOW WE ARE PLANNING TO DEFEND THE CLUBS NUMBER 1 CQP CONTEST POSITION IN 2012.**

**FROM THE PREZ**

Well, it's only a few weeks until the big event of the year for our club. I've been busy, busy, busy, working on various station related projects and really haven't had much time at all to get on the air. At this point, I haven't even tried to work NH8S, although I do still need them on a few band-modes (10, 12 and 160)....all phone....go figure.

The station project has been going well. The guy anchors and foundation are in and ready to go for tower #2 and the pair of N6MCM and K6KRD have cleared the area to make room for erection of the big Mosely Pro-67B, which W6HFM and I have assembled in the past two weeks.

I may have mentioned that the Pro-67B was given to me for the cost of hauling it away. The phasing lines and 40 meter loading radials were missing, so I had to order them from Mosley (not cheap!). The original plan had been to put a small tribander on this tower, since it's purpose in life is to get mults, but I just could not turn down a free beam. The Pro-67B is a seven element antenna, on a 24 foot boom that works on 10, 12, 15, 17, 20, and 40 meters. The antenna has two elements on 40, about the same length as the elements on a Cushcraft 40-2CD. The difference, however, is the spacing. The two elements on the Pro-67B are spaced about



**ANOTHER VISITOR WAS NANCY, KG6PNP OF EL DORADO HILLS. NANCY AND HER HUSBAND ARE BOTH HAMS. AND HAVE A TOWER UP, HOW DID THEY DO THAT?**



12.5 feet apart. The spacing on the Cushcraft is 22 feet. The reviews on this antenna are stellar, but I'm not sure what they are comparing it to. The way I look at it, it's a compromise antenna that will work as a good SO2R mult antenna on 10, 15, 20, and 40, with no switching. And, the price was right. So far, we're on track to have this up prior to CQP, if all goes well. The second tower is 300 feet down the hill and I'll be feeding this antenna with 300 feet of brand new 7/8 inch HeliAx.

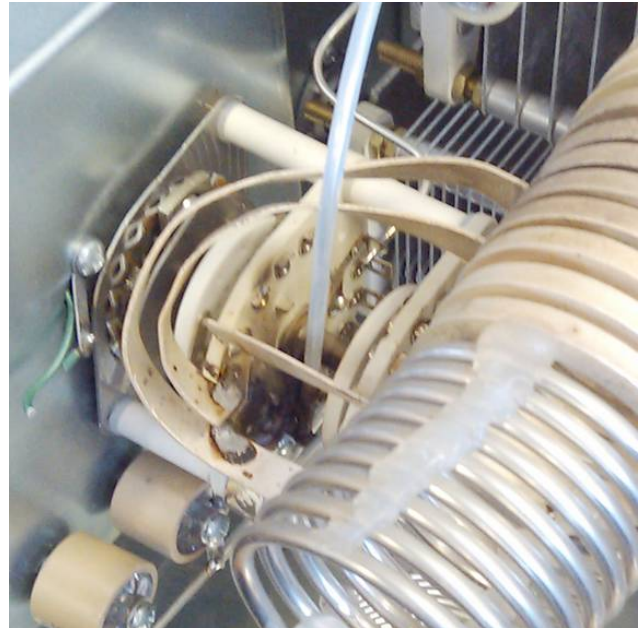
This weekend, I'm picking up a small tribander. This will be fixed at something (haven't decided what direction yet), and will be lower down tower #1. It should be up quickly.

I ordered, and have received, the relay board and control board for KK1L's 2x6 SO2R antenna switch box. Assembling the boards will be a winter project. The board quality is excellent. If you're a builder, and want a SO2R antenna switch that gets rave reviews, I'd recommend going to Ron's website and checking out the 2x6 switch project.

[http://home.comcast.net/~kk1l/kk1l\\_2x6switch/](http://home.comcast.net/~kk1l/kk1l_2x6switch/)

The relay board is \$45 and the control board is \$35. He currently has both in stock.

I've got one more project to do prior to CQP and that is to replace the band switch in my AL-1200. I've done this job more than once, but always for friend's AL-1200's. I never thought I'd have to do it for my own. Unfortunately, the band switch is a weak point in these amps and if a fatigued contester forgets to tune when switching bands, the switch can arc. \$160 is the cost of this switch. OUCH!!! Ameritron has it back-ordered and says 2-4 week delivery. Let's hope I get it before CQP. I'll take a day off of work to get it installed, if necessary. In the meantime, my trusty Henry 3K has yet to fail me, so it's available for the contest season. If you take a look at the switch, below, rest assured that the black spot on the switch is NOT a shadow!



I received an email from Martin, AA1ON, telling me that he is still clear to operate K6C at my place for CQP. As usual, he will be traveling between his QTH's in W1 and VR2.

This past week, I gave the CQP pitch to the Nevada County club and the Sierra Foothills club and it was well received by both. It was nice to see K6DGW and W6RFF at the meeting last night in Auburn. I ran into Paul, K6YBA, at the Grass Valley meeting. He is an active CQP'er, and he has since filled out an application to join MLDXCC. Next Tuesday, I'll be giving the talk to the Western Placer County club and later in the month to a couple of other clubs.

And, I'm not the only one who has been pitching CQP and mining for new members. I know Shirl, AA6K, has spoken to one or two clubs and I'm sure there are others out there who have been pitching CQP and MLDXCC membership to those in the Foothills and the Valley.

Speaking of membership applications, we now have our application on-line, meaning you can do it all on a computer, click send, and we have it. Thanks to my Engineering Manager at KOVR/KMAX (Donna, KB6FOT) who wrote the code, and to Norm, N6JV, who put it up on our website. So far, we have received 4

membership applications, which will be voted on at our next meeting in Cameron Park. If you are not currently an active member, please fill out the application form prior to CQP. Remember, we are currently a "dues-optional" club.

Several guys in the Nevada County and Sierra Foothills clubs expressed interest in us having occasional meetings up their way. It was suggested that the Denny's, in Auburn, has a really nice meeting room, so that will be a subject for discussion at our next meeting.

Dick, K6LRN, suggested that we chill at our next meeting, rather than beat on everyone about CQP. Not a bad idea. He's bringing a dxpedition video and he gives it high marks. You know, if Dick says it's worth watching, it's worth watching. See you in Cameron Park on the 22<sup>nd</sup>!

**Can I ask that you take a look at a bylaws change I would like to propose for our next meeting? I'm not a big fan of jamming something down someone's throat without extended discussion and thought, but we need to really need to consider this change.**

**My proposals address these issues.**

**1 - We need to be able to account for our on-line membership application form. We also need to be able to approve membership applications quickly, prior to CQP or prior to the log submission deadline. I'm not sure which date is required by CQP for someone to be considered a member, but I believe it is the latter.**

**2 - I am proposing that we delete the requirement to be recommended for membership. As long as we vote on the new member, I'd make that requirement optional.**

**3 - As you know, my CQP M/2 partner is Martin, AA1ON. Per Alan, K6SRZ, Martin needs to be a member, even though the ARRL contest rules say the 100% or the score can be submitted on behalf of a club if 50% of the operators are club**

**members. I asked Alan about the 175 mile rule, and he said it didn't apply. I asked again, and he repeated that. So, based on what I know right now, as long as Martin is a member, we can use 100% of my score. I have proposed a bylaws modification to account for this.**

**I hope we can have some discussion prior to the meeting so we can quickly settle this at the August 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.**

**On a different subject, Fred, K6DGW, mentioned to me last night that Rich, NU6T, would be operating with his group in Alpine County for CQP. That could make the W6SR/W1SRD station available for someone if Rick or Steve, still have it available.**

**de Bob, W1RH**

### **September 2012 Treasurer's Report**

|                                 |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Balance August 1, 201</b>    | <b>\$1262.69</b> |
| Income: Dues K6OK               | 15.00            |
| Expenses: Badge W6DR            | 12.87            |
| Donation/renewal NCDXF          | <u>250.00</u>    |
|                                 | 262.87           |
| <b>Balance August 31, 2012:</b> | <b>\$1014.82</b> |

**Carolyn Wilson, K6TKD, Treasurer**

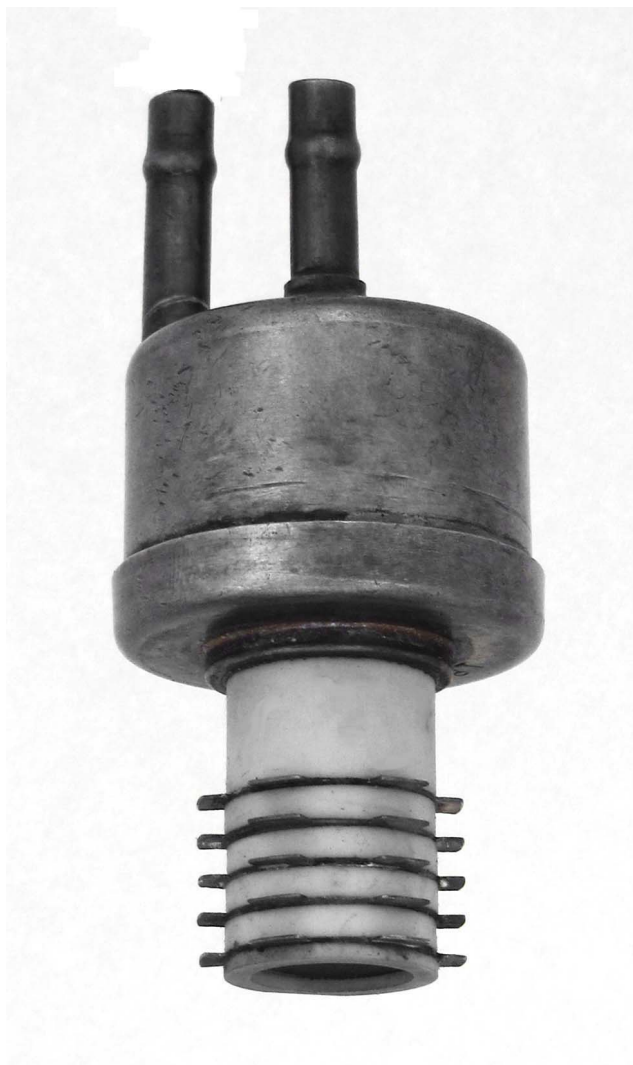
### **Tube of the Month de Norm, N6JV**

**A Tube With No Name**

The history of vacuum tubes is often the story of individuals and crazy ideas and not big companies. There are some tubes that were never made

for the market, but their stories are well known by hams and tube guys.

In the late 1940's and early 50's, Eimac was busy with new products that were very powerful and relatively small. The 4X150A family had been enhanced to handle dissipations of over 250 watts. These external anode tetrodes were very popular with the military and the hams. Eimac had made a variant of the basic 4X250A tube by replacing the anode with a water jacket and called it the 4W300B. As usual there is someone who wants something just a little different.



There was a well-known ham who used to work for Eimac until he went off on his own to expand and perfect a line of vacuum capacitors and vacuum relays. His name was Joe Jennings and my amplifiers are full of his products. Joe loved to experiment and had the idea of making a high power mobile amplifier and a remotely adjustable mobile whip (ever hear of the screwdriver?) to go in his late 1950's Cadillac (think big fins). Cooling the tube in the trunk was an issue and Joe wanted to use a water-cooled tube. The 4W300B was good but it would easily fall out of its socket without a special clamp and it wasn't designed for high vibration applications. About 1957, Eimac had developed the 4CX300A that was designed for high vibration military uses and had a breechblock socket that would secure the tube. It is unknown what the terms of the deal were with Eimac, but they made some special tubes for Joe that took the water-cooled anode of the 300Bs and put them on new 4CX300A tubes. I was once told that with a water pump in the Cadillac to cool the tube, the water pressure could also be used to tune the whip. Some of this equipment is still found at swap meets and a few of the tubes have found their way into my collection. **Visit the museum at [N6JV.com](http://N6JV.com)**

**Norm N6JV**

**Editor's Notes de Rick, W6SR**

Hi All...

Our new home has finally cleared all of the title problems, and we are now scheduled to close Friday 21

September. Hooray!!! So, barring unforeseen issues, we should be moving sometime in mid-October. Just barely getting the door closed behind us before Steve and Doris will be taking over this place. Whew! This was a close call, Hi Hi

The only DX worked was on 10GHz, I setup the dish and rig at our new QTH and had several 300-400KM QSO's. That's real DX by 10GHz standards, with a bit of help from Steve, I ran a TA (terrain analysis) on the new property, and it should be a pretty decent location. I'll let you know when we get something worthwhile in the either.

Enough for now, see you all at the meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup>.....**de Rick, W6SR**

### **Member News, Items For Sale & ARRL Announcements**

**I am sure you know** that Paul KH6HME is SK. A dear friend of mine and a tropo pioneer. I have taken over where Paul left off at the beacon site on Mauna Loa. A small group of friends that knew Paul will continue to operate all the beacons.

Jim Kennedy, KH6/K6MIO will be the trustee of KH6HME, The California-Pacific ARC. We are working on transferring the licenses now.

There is a KH6HME tropo page to post openings at <http://dx.qsl.net/propagation/tropo.php> I watch this site, also email and if

need be phone calls are fine, (at reasonable times).

I am planning to move the KH6HME 6 meter beacon on 50061.0 from Hawaiian Beaches at sea level to Mauna Loa beacon site and move NH6P beacon on 50045.0 from my home to Hawaiian Beaches site.

That is about it from the Big Island. I worked E6M yesterday on 6 meters, still waiting for NH8S to get their antenna up for 6M.

**Aloha, Fred KH7Y**

**Worked NH6S on 160 for a new one** on 160M at 1150 GMT (0450 local time). **Dave, W6DE**

**Skip, KJ6Y, was out** here for 2+ days recabling the HDX-5106 tower. Skip is a terrific tower expert with his vast experience. I also felt like I made

a new friend this week. I took him out each night to the best restaurants the little town of Galt had to offer and we had a great time talking towers and other stuff. Skip found one bad pulley and replaced it. He also ran a clinic showing me how to lube the pulleys, etc. He changed the oil in the gear box, and the chain. He gave me a lot of tips on maintenance. I can highly recommend Skip for any tower work you don't want to do or don't feel qualified to do, if you can get on his calendar. I removed the MonstIR for this work, and plan to reinstall it next weekend. I am still hoping to have the tower up for CQP.

The new ham shack is just a shell at this time. I may have to use some temporary setup for CQP. At least I will be out of the sun. The Alpha 9500 is questionable for CQP due to lack of 240V power. In time, all of this will be taken care of.

We finally moved into the new house, at least partially. Luckily, we had a spare bedroom ready to use for Skip. There continue to be many things having to do with the house that use up my time and keep me off the air. However, I can see light at the end of the tunnel finally. **Rick N6RK**

### **Meeting Minutes, 25 August 2012.**

President Bob, W1RH, called the meeting to order at 12 noon at Los Pinos, Cameron Park, CA, with 14 members and 4 guests present.

**Introductions.** Round-the-room introductions were made, to include regular members plus guests Jim, K6OLY, Shingle Springs, Nancy, KG6PNP, El Dorado Hills, Verne, W6VMT, Placerville and Trey, N5KO, Aptos.

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

**Secretary's Minutes and Treasurer's Report.** The 28 July Secretary's Minutes and Treasurer's Report were approved as they appeared in the August *Nugget* newsletter.

**Station Projects.** Rick, N6RK, is in the process of planning/building a new shack, while Bob, W1RH, plans to have his second tower up and ready for CQP.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**

**Future Meetings Dates and Venues.** It was decided that the September meeting would be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, again at the Los Pinos Restaurant in Cameron Park. The facility's set-up and location seem suitable. Meeting dates and venues for the remainder of the year have yet to be determined.

### **NEW BUSINESS.**

**Donations.** Our annual donation to the Northern California DX Foundation was discussed and it was agreed that we would donate \$250 to the Foundation; moved and seconded.

**Station Pictures.** Pictures of members' stations were presented.

**Membership.** Two membership applications were received, reviewed and approved, and new members Verne, W6VMT and Jim, K6OLY were welcomed to the Club.



**Adjournment and Program**

**Presentation.** The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM; following lunch, Bob, W1RH, presented methodology for winning CQP, together with Dana's, N6DW's, breakdown of participants in last year's contest. Moral: No numbers of points is too small to submit... it all comes down to the points.

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    |
| K6QG   | LYLE    | 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    |
| K6OLY  | JIM     | SHINGLE SPRINGS | X      |      |
| KG6PNP | NANCY   | EL DORADO HILLS |        |      |
| W6VMT  | VERNE   | PLACERVILLE     | X      |      |
| N6RK   | RICK    | GALT            | X      | X    |
| AF6OP  | KIRBY   | SHINGLE SPRINGS | X      | X    |
| N5KO   | TREY    | APTOS           |        | X    |

|       |      |                |   |   |
|-------|------|----------------|---|---|
| K3EST | BOB  | DAVIS          | X | X |
| WC6H  | RICH | VALLEY SPRINGS | X | X |

**Kay Anderson, K6KO Secretary**

**Secretary**

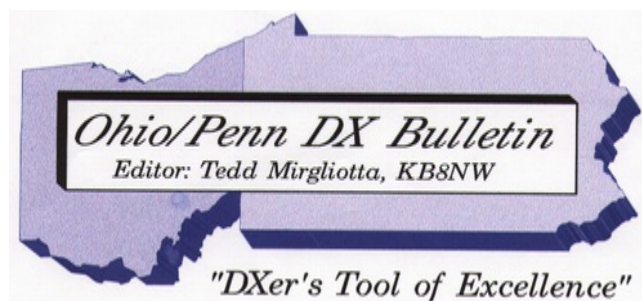
**Click on the Hyperlink below to check-out the MLDXCC scores in the latest contests.**

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

**UP-COMING DX and Dxpeditons**

**Click the link below to display upcoming Announced DXpeditons:**

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



OPDX Bulletin 1079  
September 17, 2012

The Ohio/Penn Dx PacketCluster

DX Bulletin No. 1079

BID: \$OPDX.1079

September 17, 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, N1SV, NJ1Q & W1AW, NG3K & ADXO, W3UR & The Daily DX, N4AA & QRZ DX,

N4II, K5WE, K5YY, KH6BZF, KM6HB, WC6DX, N7CQQ, K8GI, K8YSE, W8GEX & 60m News, W9ILY, WB0VGI, AT International, DF7ZS,, DK8JB & The DX News Letter, DL1SBF, DxCoffee.com, DX-World.Net, ES1CW, F5NQL, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, I2MQP & DX Italia News, IARU Region 1 Web Site, N6PSE, OH2BH, ON5NT, OZ6OM & 50 MHz DX News, Pete's DX-Newsdesk, PY2XB, RSGB IOTA Web Site, Sixitalia Weekly, UA4WHX, VA3RJ & ICPO, the VHF-DX-Portal (MMMonVHF) and the YBDXC for the following DX information.

### **DXCC COUNTRY/ENTITY REPORT**

According to the AR-Cluster Network for the week of Sunday, 9th-September, through Sunday, 16th-September there were 219 countries active. Countries available: 3A, 3B8, 3D2, 3DA, 3V, 3W, 4J, 4L, 4O, 4S, 4U1I, 4X, 5B, 5H, 5N, 5R, 5W, 5Z, 6W, 6Y, 7P, 7X, 8P, 8Q, 8R, 9A, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9M2, 9M6, 9N, 9Q, 9V, 9Y, A2, A3, A4, A6, A7, A9, AP, BV, BY, C2, C3, C5, C6, CE, CE9, CM, CN, CP, CT, CT3, CU, CX, D2, D4, D6, DL, DU, E5/n, E5/s, E6, E7, EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, EI, EK, EL, ER, ES, ET, EU, EX, EY, F, FG, FH, FK, FM, FO, FP, FR, FY, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU, GW, HA, HB, HB0, HC, HH, HI, HK, HL, HP, HR, HS, HV, HZ, I, IS, J2, J3, J5, J6, JA, JD/o, JT, JW, JX, JY, K, KG4, KH0, KH2, KH6, KH8/s, KL, KP2, KP4, LA, LU, LX, LY, LZ, OA, OD, OE, OH, OH0, OK, OM, ON, OX, OY, OZ, P2, P4, PA, PJ4, PY, PZ, R1FJ, S2, S5, SM, SP, ST, SU, SV, SV5, SV9, T30, T7, T8, TA, TF, TG, TI, TJ, TK, TR, TT, TU, TY, UA, UA2, UA9, UK, UN, UR, V3, V4, V5, V6, V7, V8, VE, VK, VP2E, VP8, VP8/h, VP9, VQ9, VR, VU, XE, XU, YA, YB, YI, YJ, YL, YN, YO, YU, YV, Z2, Z3, Z8, ZA, ZB, ZC4, ZD7, ZD9, ZF, ZL, ZP, ZS

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

### **3A, MONACO (Update)**

Nobby, G0VJG, will be active as 3A/G0VJG between October 1-5th. Activity will be on the HF bands using 100 watts and SSB only. QSL via G4DFI (not G0VJG).

### **3D2C, CONWAY REEF (Press Release #3)**

Paul, N6PSE, sent out the following on September 10th [edited]:

"DXpedition to Conway Reef as 3D2C -- It is with great excitement that we announce that our preparations for a large multi-national DXpedition to Conway Reef are going according to plan. We now have 19 operators from all over the globe to participate in this tent and generator operation.

Conway Reef is located in the South Pacific Ocean and is #35 on Club Log's most wanted DXCC list.

The bulk of our equipment has arrived and is staged in Suva, Fiji. ICOM is shipping the IC-7600 rigs to us this week, and they will travel with the team to Suva. Our advance team is arriving in Suva on September 21st to commence with equipment testing and loading on our vessel, the venerable Island Dancer II.

The main Team is meeting in Lami Bay, Suva, and departing by ship to Conway Reef on September 24th. The Team expects to arrive at Conway Reef and become active on September 26th. We will complete our DXpedition on October 5th, 2012, and return to Suva.

The main goals of this DXpedition are to work every amateur radio operator who needs Conway Reef for a new DXCC country. In addition, we will be active on all bands from 1.8 MHz to 144 MHz, including the 5 MHz and 50 MHz bands.

We will be active on CW, SSB and RTTY. Special attention will be made to work far away stations such as Europe and Africa during those periods when propagation permits. The propagation window for EU and Africa is very brief at times and signals may be weak, so we

ask everyone in the honored HAM SPIRIT to stand by when asked so that we may fulfill this need. Our destination will have a wide range of options and possibilities.

We will use our Satellite phones to upload our logs on a daily basis to our on-line log. We will upload to LOTW approximately six months following the DXpedition.

Our team consists of these Operators:  
Hrane/YT1AD (Leader), Aleksej/ UA4HOX (Co-Leader-Operations), Paul/N6PSE (Co-Leader-PR & Fundraising), David/WD5COV, Vasily/RW4NW, David/AH6HY, Alan/K6SRZ (Team Physician), Alan/AD6E, Sergej/RZ3FW, Craig/K9CT, Stan/LZ1GC, George/N6NKT, Peter/ PY5CC, Mike/K6MKF, Jim/K9JM, Miguel/PY3MM, Luciano/PY5KD, Dragan/YT3W and Tevita/3D2TR. Our Pilot Stations are: Aca/YU1AA, Toma/YU1AB and Andre/V51B.

We wish everyone good propagation, and we hope that you enjoy working the 3D2C Team.

We are very grateful to INDEXA, NCDXF and all of the Clubs and individuals who have provided monetary support for this DXpedition. We sincerely hope we can satisfy your needs!

At this time, we are seeking additional Club and Individual Sponsors to help us defray the costs of carrying out this DXpedition. Donations can be made via the 3D2C web page. OQRS will be available upon completion of the DXpedition.

Our official website is

<http://www.yt1ad.info/3d2c/index.html>  
3D2C Team"

#### **40, MONTENEGRO**

Chab, YT7WA, will be active as 40/homecall from the Village of Buljarice between now and September 23rd. Activity will be on BPSK and QPSK.

#### **4S, SRI LANKA**

A group of JA operators are now active from Trincomalee in eastern Sri Lanka using individual callsigns until September 20th. Activity will be on all bands and modes.

Operators mentioned are Hiroshi/ JA3HBF (4S7HBG), Toru/JR3QHQ (4S7QHG), Nakasako/JA3UJR (4S7UJG), Ryo/ JG3DOG (4S7DOG), Ikuo/JA3TJA (4S7TAG), 7M3FMR (4S7TEG), Kunio/JH3LSS (4S7LSG) and Tatsuo/JA3ARJ (4S7ARG). By the way, the JA team also activated **Pigeon Island** in the Sri Lanka's Coastal Island IOTA Group (**AS-171**) this past Sunday for a few hours. QSL via their home callsigns or via the instructions of the operator.

#### **5H, TANZANIA**

Noel, WB0VGI, informs OPDX that he will arrive in Tanzania on September 18th. However, he will be settling in and touring the country first before operating. He suspects that he will not be able to operate until at least October 8th, and will be active as 5H3NP from Iringa until December 15th. His plan is to operate 20/15/10 meters initially. Noel will have to build a WARC band antenna if he can find the room. Operations will be on CW, SSB and PSK. QSL via his home callsign.

#### **5W & KH8, SAMOA AND AMERICAN SAMOA (Update)**

John, N7CQQ, sent out the following press release on September 12th [edited]:

"We plan to depart Western Samoa (5W) on or about the 18th of September and join the party at a Trade Winds hotel in American Samoa. The gang from Swains should be arriving a day or two following our arrival back in American Samoa [AS] (KH8). Party will begin. We will see them off from the airport.

N7CQQ (5W0QQ) and N6XT (5W0XT) will continue to operate from AS until our planned departure on October 1st. We expect (or will try to) setup our station at the Trade Winds hotel for the remainder of our stay. We might also have access to the AH8LG station for QRO operation. We will set up for 60 meter operation from Western Samoa (WS) also. As soon as we set up a schedule for 60 meters, it will be posted here on your favorite DX news source.

PS: A special thank you to Atsuo, 5W1SA, for opening his home/ham station and very generous support while in Western Samoa. He drove us around and showed us the ropes here until we felt comfortable to do it on our own. Atsuo has a computer and wireless internet business here in Samoa.

Atsuo is forming a Ham Club here for visiting hams from around the world. We have contributed a donation to get him started. His plan, on the one acre hill top, is to get the property surveyed, the weeds cut, haul in some crushed rock and then obtain a 20 foot shipping container. I offered to purchase half of a shipping container to help get Atsuo started. (I might get my Call Sign on the side of the container?)

We have made plans to return to Western Samoa next year to build antennas and work on the site. This is an aggressive schedule for Samoa; I will keep you posted on the progress.

Atsuo will be putting up a Web page to post pictures and progress notes. The Web site will have suggested lodging sites, logistic information, car rental info, licensing info, and a list of the Charter Members of the Samoa Ham Club. I will add a section to the Web site to give details of our attempt to visit Tokelau, ZK3.

So here is your chance to make the DXCC program stronger by getting a world class ham site going on Samoa.

**N7CQQ** ([n7cqq@msn.com](mailto:n7cqq@msn.com)) ([atsuo@5w1sa.com](mailto:atsuo@5w1sa.com))

### **9H, MALTA**

Gus, ON6KE, will be active as 9H3AK from **Gozo (EU-023)** between September 22-28th. Activity will be holiday style on 40/30/20 meters operating QRP (2-5 watts) CW. Suggested frequencies are 7030/7040, 10106/10116 and 14060 kHz. QSL only via LoTW and eQSL and LoTW. He states, "NO Bureau" and "no printed QSL, sorry".

### **A7, QATAR**

Members of the Qatar Amateur Radio Society are heading for the beach again for a Multi-

Operator/Multi-Transmitter entry in the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 27-28th). This year the A73A team will include Ali/A71BX, Rashid/A71AD, Abdulla/A71CV, Khalid/A71CO, Mohammad/A71EL, Saif/A71AM, Ali/A71BZ, Ibrahim/A61ZX, Khalid/A61BK, Dave/K5GN,N5OT, David/N6AN, Larry/N6TR and Aoli/HA1AG. QSL via EA7FTR.

### **A SLICK CERTIFICATE FROM THE AZORES NINE ISLANDS HUNT ORGANIZERS! [edited]**

Press Release from Martti, OH2BH, dated September 14, 2012:

"While this special activity will feature a hunt to work the maximum number of Azores islands, the Organizing Committee has today released the copy of a beautiful certificate available to all who manage to contact all 9 islands during the weekend of September 28-30th, 2012. The certificate will be sent by E-mail to those eligible for the Certificate of Merit presented as part of this release and shown at

<http://azores-islands-hunt.com/>

This new element will add to the grand prizes (2) of free travel to the Azores that are to be given out on October 15 as part of a lucky draw.

Also, the renowned Club Log will be featured as a window to all 9 islands logs almost real-time with special software combining all nine islands logs into one overview.

We kindly ask you to pass the Nine Islands banner to your favorite webmaster and ask him to link it to

<http://azores-islands-hunt.com/>

."

**ADDED NOTE:** The certificate can also be seen on the Northern Ohio DX Association's FaceBook page <http://www.facebook.com/NorthernOhioDxAassociation>.

### **BX5, TAIWAN (AS-020)**

Jimmy, BX5AA, from Changhua City, Taiwan (WLOTA 0022), will be active during the



CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 27-28th) as a Single-Op/Single-All/High-Power entry. Jimmy states that BX5 is a rare prefix for Taiwan (CQ 24). QSL via BX5AA, direct (see [QRZ.com](http://QRZ.com)). Visit his Web page at:

<http://blog.yam.com/bx5aa>

## **BY, CHINA**

Look for the YinZhou Middle School Amateur Radio Club Station, located in NingBo City, Zhejiang Province, to be active as BY5CD during the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 27-28th) as a Multi-Op/All-Band entry. Their station consists of 2x Yaesu FT-2000 with stacked antennas for 40m and above. They also have 80m 4 SQ, 160m full size Slope with Beverage, and will use legal limit power. QSL via BD4HF, direct or by the Bureau (May take a long time!). OM and YL operators mentioned are Jack/BA4ALC, Ding/BA7MG, Bai/BH1DYK, Wei/BD1QXU, BG4AHK, Chen/BA7NO, Jordan/BA7MY, Mark/BD4FM, Esa/OH7WV, Takao/JE2LPC, Fan/BA1RB, Lu/BA5FB, Bojan/BA5BJ, Robin Le/BD5CHU and Chenxing/BD4HF.

## **FO, FRENCH POLYNESIA (IOTA Op)**

Alain, F4GYP, will be active as FO/F4GYP from several French Polynesian Islands between October 19th and November 6th. The islands mentioned are **Tahiti (OC-046, DIFO FO002)**, **Mehetia (OC-046, DIFO FO009)**, **Moorea (OC-046, DIFO FO010)** and **Raiatea (OC-067, DIFO FO012)** [probably during the weekend of October 27-28th for Raiatea]. He will be also be active on **Motu Nono (OC-046, DIFO FO131)** with the special callsign TX4FO. No specific date; it depends on the weather conditions. Activity will be on SSB and on 40/20 meters possibly 10 meters also. QSL via F4GYP, direct or by the Bureau.

## **IOTA NEWS**

**AS-025.** Valery, RA0SS, is now active as RA0SS/0 from **Kunashir Island** possibly for one month depending on transport. Activity has been mainly on 30 and 20 meters.

**AS-043.** Operators Suehiro/JI1PLF, Mitsuo/JA1UNS, Hisashi/7N1GMK and Takeo/7L4PVR will be active as homecall/1 from **Hachijo Island** between October 13-16th. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via their home callsign, direct or by the Bureau.

**EU-054.** Operators Raffaello/IT9ATF, Sal/IT9BXR, Renato/IT9NPR, Pippo/IT9PPG, Antonino/IT9RDG and Pino/IT9WDC will be active as IF9A from **Favignana Island** (IIA TP-011, MIA MI-025, WLOTA LH-1545) for the CQWW DX SSB Contest as (October 27-28th) 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.

**EU-057.** Volkert, DL6BE, will be active as homecall/p from **Oehe Island** (DID/GIA O-019) between October 29th and November 4th. Activity will be on the HF bands on, or near, the usual island and IOTA frequencies. QSL via his home callsign.

**NA-046.** Larry, K4KGG, is now active as K4KGG/1 on **Martha's Vineyard Island** until September 18th. Look for him around 2200z on primary on 14260 kHz SSB, but he may also work the other IOTA SSB frequencies on 10, 15, and 40m. QSL via K4KGG, direct or by the Bureau.

**NA-067.** Glenn, NY4NC, will be active as homecall/p from **Ocracoke Island** (USI NC001S, WLOTA 0466, Hyde County), North Carolina, between September 17-21st. Activity will be mainly on 40/20 meters operating QRP CW. QSL via direct to his home callsign.

**OC-160.** Aki, JA1NLX, will be active as homecall/VK4 from **Hamilton** between October 18-23rd. Activity will be on 40-10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via JA1NLX. There is a OQRS on:

[http://www.ne.jp/asahi/ja1nlx/ham/VK4\\_2012.html](http://www.ne.jp/asahi/ja1nlx/ham/VK4_2012.html)

## **JW, SVALBARD**

Operators Kjell/LA9HH and Karl/LA8DW will

be active as JW9HH and JW8DW, respectively, from **Svalbard Islands** until September 19th. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW and SSB. They were both active this past weekend as JW5E during the SAC Contest. QSL JW8DW via LA8DW and JW9HH via LA9HH, direct or by the Bureau. QSL via JW5E (see [QRZ.com](http://QRZ.com)).

**K6, UNITED STATES (Special Event)**

Mark, KM6HB, for the 8th straight year, will operate as special event station, K6P, between September 21-23rd. Activity is to commemorate "National POW-MIA Recognition Day" (Every 3rd Friday in September as stipulated by the Congress) and "Honor and remember those that have served and are still waiting to come home". Mark states, "Please stop by on the air and help us remember and honor those that having given so much for freedom." Suggested SSB frequencies are: 7250, 14253 and 18150 kHz (+/- QRM). They will operate from the Southern California area. QSL for a two sided picture QSL card via KM6HB: Mark McMullen, P.O. Box 27271, Santa Ana, California 92799, USA. Logs will be uploaded to EQSL and LoTW.

**KH2/NH2, GUAM**

Dave, N2NL, will once again be active as NH2T from **Guam (OC-026)** during the CQWW DX RTTY Contest (September 29-30th) and both the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 27-28th) and CQWW DX CW Contest (November 24-25th) as a Single-Op/All-Bnad/High-Power entry. He is expected to be here until the summer of 2013. Dave will be active (outside of contests) as KH2/N2NL and during all contests as NH2T. QSL via LoTW or via W2YC. For more information, including a station description, you can visit his Blog Page at:

<http://www.n2nl.net>

**KH6BZF PROPAGATION FORECAST/REPORT (September 17-23rd)**

Sep/17th AN-HN    Sep/20th HN  
 Sep/22nd HN

Sep/18th HN-AN    Sep/21st HN  
 Sep/23rd AN  
 Sep/19th AN

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
  
```

**KP2, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS**

Jeff, K5WE, will be active as KP2/K5WE from St. Croix beginning September 17th until 26th. Activity will be on all bands, mostly CW, maybe some RTTY. QSL via his home callsign.

**NH8, SWAINS ISLANDS**

By the time you read this, the NH8S team on Swains Island is now QRT and in the process of tearing down their camp for a possible early departure. They were expected to be active until September 18th. However, San, K5YY, Swaim's 60m pilot, informs us on Saturday that the team has had "much bad weather conditions, antennas down, operators sick and tired and dehydrated and with some wounds requiring medical care."

The NH8S team has made a total of 105455 QSOs with 26010 Unique callsigns (43126/SSB, 54128/CW and 8201/RTTY). Breakdown by Continent: 522/AF, 2/AN, 28620/AS, 29509/EU, 43091/NA, 2663/OC and 1048/SA. The NH8S team recommends to QSL via OQRS by ClubLog for both direct or Bureau QSLs.

**PLEASE NOTE:** They will activate the OQRS system after the DXpeditions ends -- on or about

Saturday, 22-September-2012. Complete instructions will be provided on the NH8S QSL page. Direct QSLs can be mailed to: Swains Island DXpedition, P.O. Box 5005, Lake Wylie, SC 29710, USA. Bureau QSLs go to AA4NN (but use the OQRS - it is faster). QSL via LoTW (Logs will be posted 6 months after the conclusion of the DXpedition).

There will not be any QSLs via eQSL. For more details on the NH8S operation, see the Web site at:

<http://nh8s.org>

### OH0, ALAND ISLAND

Raimo, OH3BHL, will be active as OH0KAG during the CQWW DX RTTY Contest (September 29-30th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (40m) entry. QSL via LoTW. There will be part time operations if 10m is not open.

### P4, ARUBA

Helmut, DF7ZS, will once again be active from Aruba (SA-036) (probably from P40V's QTH), possibly as P40Z between October 17-21st. He plans to be active in the Worked All German Contest [WAG] (October 20-21st). Helmut informs OPDX that outside of the contest he will be active on 17/12 meters. QSL via DF7ZS.

### PJ6, SABA

Mike, G4IUF (ISWL Member), will once again be active as PJ6/G4IUF from Isle House, Windwardside, [Saba Island \(NA-145\)](#), WFF PAFF-027, WLOTA 2043) between October 1st and November 1st. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via his home callsign, direct or E-mail for Bureau request (see [\(QRZ.com\)](#)).

### QSL INFO AND NEWS

QSL-INFO from DB0SDX (dated September 16th)

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 3V8BB via LX1NO (WAE SSB 2012) NH7O  
 via EA5GL UA9FAR via EA7FTR  
 4L0G via EA7FTR  
 OE/DK1AX/P via DK1AX UN7MMM via  
 EA7FTR

5P1EBR via DL1EBR OF150M  
 via OH8DR UN8GV via RD3AY  
 AY8A via LU8ADX OH/DJ9DZ  
 via DJ9DZ UT/R100SG via RN3FY  
 CE2/CX1EK via CX1EK (d US ad)  
 OH0V via OH6LI V5/DL3ZAD via DL3ZAD  
 CR5DBOSCO via CT1EPE ON68POL via ON4AZD  
 V5/HB9PHJ via HB9PHJ EG3SBD via EA3URS  
 OX/OZ0J via OZ0J V55V via DJ8VC  
 EH2HJ via EA2CJW PR1T via LoTW only  
 V63MJ via W5MJ EX8VM via RW6HS (d)  
 PW2D via M0OXO V73AX via WH0AI  
 HK1NA via K6IPM PW2T via PY2MN  
 YU/UR8UA via UR8UA IR2L via IW2LLH  
 R20SRR via RK3A YY2CAR via EA7HBC  
 JW9HH via LA9HH R100RW via UA9OA  
 ZA/OK2BOB via OK2BOB JX9JKA via LA9JKA  
 SB6HL via SM5YRA ZY5Y via PP5BS  
 LT0H via EA7FTR TK/DL4FF via DL4FF  
 (d) direct only (B) Bureau only (L)  
 LoTW only

**E40VB QSL STATUS.** Vladimir, UA4WHX, informs OPDX that the E40VB QSLs will be in the mail on September 13th. However, he also mentions that he has not heard from Bill Moore, NC1L, and the ARRL on the approval yet. He submitted all the documents to them at the end of July.

**VP2V/AA7V QSL ROUTE.** Rex, NR6M, will be the QSL Manager for VP2V/AA7V starting with the operation which begins September 26, 2012. QSL policy is as follows: U.S. stations send SASE and DX stations must send SAE with 2 USDs or 1 IRC with a current date. No Bureau cards for this operation.

**QSL RECEIVED VIA LoTW: 2O12L, A61K, CX2DK, CX9AU, D2EB, E51EWP, E51M, EJ0PL, EW2AO, F4FZR, FK8DD, HB9BXE, HB9CVQ, KP2/KZ5D, LU5OM, OE3DIA, OK1NZJ, ON4KEB, P4/WA2NHA, PY2YW, R5DT, RD3BZ, RZ3AM, SV1ACL, TF3ARI, TI2HAS, UA6FZ, VK2NRB, VK7CW, XE1ZW, YU1AAV and ZS6BXI**

**QSLs RECEIVED VIA MAIL: A45WW/m, DP0GVN, DP0GVN/P, EA1CYK/P, FK8CP, HB0/HB9AON, J68HZ and TX7M**

**QSLs RECEIVED VIA THE BUREAU: 3G0Y, 4K0CW, 5N0OCH, 7Z1HB, 7Z1HL,**

**8Q7QX, 9G5ZZ, CE0ZY, CT9/DJ4UF, EA6/DL7UCH, HB0/DJ2IA, OX/DL1RTL, PJ2GT, SU1KM, TA2AL, TF/DF8AN/P, TO3GA, V5/DC8QT, V5/DJ9KM and V55DLH**

### **REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO (To Be On The Air Soon!)**

Excerpts from the IARU Region 1 Web page reports:

"Monday, September 10, 2012 marked the end of supervised independence of the Republic of Kosovo, a European country with a population of 2 million, and the beginning of its status as a fully sovereign state." It also states, "Kosovo is now an independent country, which must be honored as such. As of today, a total of 91 countries, including most of the industrialized world, such as USA, Japan, Germany, the United Kingdom and France along with the Benelux and Nordic countries, have recognized the Republic of Kosovo. These powers have endorsed the final settlement, the fulfilment of which is now celebrated in Kosovo's capital Prishtina.

An Amateur Radio working group headed by IARU Region 1 President Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, and including IARU Region 1 Executive Committee Member Nikola Percin, 9A5W and Mission Goodwill Kosovo Coordinator Martti Laine, OH2BH, together with their associates are in the final stages of assisting Kosovo's Telecom Authorities in drafting regulations governing Amateur Radio in Kosovo, to bring the original Kosovar operators and their re-vitalized Amateur Radio Association back to the international community.

<http://www.voanews.com/content/supervised-independence-ends-in-kosovo/1505339.html>

"  
The IARU Region 1 Web page is at:

<http://www.iaru-r1.org>

### **SU55, EGYPT (Special Event)**

Members of the Egyptian Radio Amateur Society for Development (ERASD) will activate special event station SU55J from Cairo between

October 18-22nd. The ERASD will be celebrating 55th World Scout Jamboree On The Air (JOTA 55) and also participate in the event. QSL only direct to SM5AQD. Visit the Egyptian Radio Amateurs Society Facebook page to learn of upcoming activities and all news about ERASD at:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Egyptian-Radio-Amateurs-Society-For-Development-ERASD/118552214859517>

### **T30, WESTERN KIRIBATI**

Melody, T30MK, is a native living on **Tarawa Atoll (OC-017)** in Western Kiribati. He states on QRZ.com, "I will be pleased to contact colleagues from all over the world. Please, be patient when contacting me as T30 is a highly requested entity. I will try to offer all colleagues the chance to confirm a contact with Western Kiribati." So far, we have not seen any QSNs on the DXClusters, but we will keep you informed.

### **T30, WESTERN KIRIBATI (3rd Press Release - T30PY/T30SIX)**

"We are working on the last minute logistic issues as well as on final preparation of our operation. Although Air Pacific has changed our flight schedule multiple times, we are confident that we can keep up with the announced schedule. The first station should be on the air in the first GMT hours of October 16th. Then we will gradually have all 4 stations running. The quality and even the availability of local Internet need to be confirmed. Our goal is to upload logs in Clublog daily as well as send news to the community periodically. The current DXpeditions in the Pacific area give us additional information about the likely local propagation behavior on HF. We emphasize that we plan to have Low Band stations in every SR/SS as well as the 6m station on EME on every MR/MS. We are grateful for the support received from many individuals, clubs and companies. Support is key for the success of this enterprise.

73, T30PY / T30SIX Team  
<http://www.mdxc.org/t30py>"



### **T33, BANABA**

A 14 member team of operators led by Jay/W2IJ and David/N1EMC is being planned for a DXpedition to Banaba for March/April 2013. A license has been issued (T33A), landing permission obtained and charter boat organized. The team's plan is to have 6 active stations on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY for approximately 12 days (including two weekends) returning to Tarawa on April 10, 2013. Operators mentioned are Jay/W2IJ, David/N1EMC, Arnold/N6HC, John/N7CQQ, Charlie/W6KK, Mike/N9NS, Paul/W8AEF, Cliff/KD6XH, Jay/AA4FL, Franz/DK1II and Carlos/EAlIR. They have 3 places remaining for interested operators. For more details in joining the DXpedition, drop an E-mail to [Banaba\[at\]T33A.com](mailto:Banaba[at]T33A.com). Look for more details to be forthcoming.

### **T8, PALAU**

Hisashi, JF2SKV, will be active as T88KV from Koror Island (OC-009) between October 26-30th. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. He will also be in the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 27-28th) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL via his home callsign. For more info, visit the following URLs:  
<http://www.facebook.com/jf2skv>

[http://blog.goo.ne.jp/skv\\_2006](http://blog.goo.ne.jp/skv_2006)

### **TA, TURKEY**

Gab, HA3JB, will be active as TA/HA3JB from Turkey between September 22nd and October 2nd. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. He will also be in the CQWW DX RTTY Contest (September 29-30th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (??) entry. QSO is valid for the IPA Award. QSL via the CBA or his OQRS at:

<http://www.ha3jb.com/oqrs.html>

### **VK9C & VK9X, CHRISTMAS ISLAND**

Sadao "Dan", JA1PBV, will once again be active as VK9XS from [Christmas Island \(OC-002\)](#) between now and September 20th. Activity will be on the HF bands, 80-6 meters using CW and

RTTY, with a focus on NA and SA. Dan will use a IC-7000, DM-330MV, X200PC and wire antenna. See his setup from last operation at: <http://ito110.com> He is expected to move to [Cocos Keeling Island \(OC-003\)](#) and be active as VK9CS between September 21-28th. QSL via his home callsign.

### **VP2M, MONSERRAT**

Martin, G4XUM, will be active as VP2MXU between October 23-30th. He should be active in the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 27-28th). QSL via G3NKC.

### **VP9, BERMUDA**

Les, N1SV, will once again be active as VP9I for the 2012 CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 27-28th). Before the contest, look for VP9/N1SV starting on October 24th on all bands. QSL VP9I via N1HRA and VP9/N1SV via his home callsign.

### **YB, INDONESIA (Special Certificate)**

To commemorate the one year anniversary of the YB Land DX Club, a special short term certificate of merit will be issued for contacting YBDXC members as well as other amateurs from YB land between September 13th and October 31st, 2012. Members of YBDXC and non member YB amateur radio stations are assigned points, and you must obtain a minimum 50 points to qualify for the certificate. The award in PDF electronic form which you can download and print is FREE. QSL cards are not required, but you will need to send log entries by E-mail to sponsor. For further details, please check out their Web site at the following URLs:

<http://www.ybdxc.net>  
<http://www.ybdxc.net/2012/09/yb-land-dx-club-1st-anniversary.html>  
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/ybdxc>  
<https://twitter.com/#!/ybdxc>  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/YBDXC> New

### **Z8, SOUTH SUDAN (Update)**

Jim, K7QI, reports on QRZ.com that he has received his callsign, as well as Diya, YI1DZ. Their callsigns are Z81A (Jim) and Z81D (Diya)

and are good for one year. Jim is now living and working in Juba, while Diya is a UN WFP telecom worker there. The two operators will soon meet and pool their resources together to help bring Amateur radio to South Sudan. Jim states on QRZ.com that "most all of Juba has no electricity and the house I've rented is the same. My company is in the process of ordering 2 generators. I am scheduled to fly back home on 25th of September 2012, and will return to Juba around late October or early November.

I still need to select HF equipment and VHF equipment, and will bring the equipment back with me once I've selected the equipment. I am a member of AMSAT back home, and am planning on becoming active on AMSAT from here. Once I am set up and operating, I plan on being highly active, and will be on just about everyday. So please be patient, and I will be on very soon."

Meanwhile, Diya, Z81D, has a station already set up and ready to go. Jim states, "Thanks to his kindness, we both will be using his station until I can get my station set up." By the way, Diya was heard on the air for the first time on September 13th, around 1745z operating 17 meters SSB. The QSL Manager for Z81A is Frank Remington, K7GSE. Please send S.A.S.E. with 2 green stamps or 1 valid IRC to Frank. The QSL Manager for Diya, YI1DZ (Z81D), is Stefan, OM3JW. To see pictures of both licenses and Diya's radio shack located at Nyakuron South, Juba, see "DX-World.net" at:

<http://dx-world.net/2012/z81a-z81d-republic-of-south-sudan>

**ADDED NOTE:** Both operators are now active and have been on 20, 17 and 15 meters SSB.

## **ZL7, CHATHAM ISLAND**

Hiro, JF1OCQ/W1VX/ZL1WY, will be active as ZL7A from the **Chatham Islands (OC-038)** between November 1-9th. Activity will be on 80-6 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes, with an emphasis on 80 and 6 meters. A beacon will be on 50.117 MHz around the clock. Hiro will use a TS-590S w/ACOM1000 into a

Husler vertical for HF, and a FT-100 without a Linear Amp into 4 element yagi for 6 meters. QSL via JF1OCQ, direct (see [QRZ.com](http://QRZ.com)) or by the Bureau (E-mail requests available) or LoTW. NO eQSL. For more details, see:

<http://w1vx.net/pedition/zl7/2012ZL7.htm>

## **ZL9, CAMPBELL ISLAND (Update/Press Release)[edited]**

The following was released by Ed, VK2ARE, Australian publicity Officer for ZL9HR, on Sunday, September 9th:

"MONSTER ANTENNA! - The HARAOA president and DX'Pedition leader Tommy, VK2IR, has just finished construction of a 40 meters, 2 element Moxon antenna yes that's right a two element 40 meters beam is gong on the ZL9HR DX'Pedition to Campbell Island (IOTA OC-037) for the activation between November 28th and December 9th. The element length is 15 ½ metres long! To see the construction of this monster simply search for ZL9HR on Youtube:

<http://www.youtube.com/?watch?v=ZuJo9LGOS7I>

<http://www.youtube.com/?watch?v=BJVvtc2ptvw>

<http://www.youtube.com/?watch?v=xbE0lxcTVZ8>

<http://www.youtube.com/?watch?v=t-17Fj1BQfQ>

<http://www.youtube.com/?watch?v=WO6lwNXMjCM>

<http://www.youtube.com/?watch?v=5W7p5Qkz3nI>

The fitting out of the four shipping containers to take all the equipment has also been finished, and they are being packed. All of this is on schedule to be ready to be shipped out of Sydney in just a few days around the 15th of September.

The team is also delighted to have received several more sponsors, both commercial, associations and clubs and individuals all of which are listed on the web site at ZL9HR.com. Again a great vote of thanks to all of the sponsors without whom this DX'Pedition could not take place.

So where will ZL9HR operate? On which bands and which modes? While the aim is to operate on as many bands as possible and try to give as many amateurs as possible the chance to work this rare DX location, your vote on the website will affect some of the plans so if you haven't already done so, please go and vote for your preferred mode and band by going to ZL9HR.com and clicking on the survey button at the top of the home page. Presently 10m is by far the most requested band followed by 160m, as for modes CW leads Digital followed by Sideband.

Please refer to the web site [ZL9HR.COM](http://ZL9HR.COM) for the full, up-to-date information about this major DX'pedition to the Great Southern Ocean. 73 from Ed VK2ARE Australian publicity Officer for ZL9HR"

The ZL9HR DXpedition Web page is at:  
<http://www.campbell2012.com>

**UP-COMING CONTESTS (complete)**  
**For the latest contest info. click on the following link:**  
<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

**September 2012**

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY | 0000Z, Sep 29 to 2400Z, Sep 30                         |
| + Microwave Fall Sprint       | 0700 local - 1300 local, Sep 29                        |
| Texas QSO Party               | 1400Z, Sep 29 to 0200Z, Sep 30 and 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 30 |

**October 2012**

|                            |                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Oceania DX Contest, Phone  | 0800Z, Oct 6 to 0800Z, Oct 7 |
| California QSO Party       | 1600Z, Oct 6 to 2200Z, Oct 7 |
| NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint    | 1800Z-2000Z, Oct 10          |
| + RSGB 80m Club Sprint, CW | 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 10          |
| Makrothen RTTY             | 0000Z, Oct 13 to             |

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Contest                        | 1559Z, Oct 14  |
| Pennsylvania QSO Party         | 1600Z, Oct 13 to 0500Z, Oct 14 and 1300Z-2200Z, Oct 14 |
| + Arizona QSO Party            | 1600Z, Oct 13 to 0600Z, Oct 14 and 1400Z-2359Z, Oct 14 |
| + North American Sprint, RTTY  | 0000Z-0400Z, Oct 14                                    |
| + ARRL School Club Roundup     | 1300Z, Oct 15 to 2400Z, Oct 19                         |
| New York QSO Party             | 1400Z, Oct 20 to 0200Z, Oct 21                         |
| + Iowa QSO Party               | 1400Z-2300Z, Oct 20                                    |
| + Stew Perry Topband Challenge | 1500Z, Oct 20 to 1500Z, Oct 21                         |
| + Illinois QSO Party           | 1700Z, Oct 21 to 0100Z, Oct 22                         |
| CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB   | 0000Z, Oct 27 to 2400Z, Oct 28                         |

**The K7RA Solar Update**

09/14/2012

Solar activity retreated this week, with the average daily sunspot numbers off nearly 46 points -- about 35 percent -- to 83.1, while the average daily solar flux declined 18 points to 118.9. Sunspot numbers for September 6-12 were 112, 110, 70, 87, 62, 73 and 68, with a mean of 83.1. The 10.7 cm flux was 128, 133.4, 128.6, 123, 111.3, 105.1 and 102.6, with a mean of 118.9. The estimated planetary A indices were 11, 9, 8, 5, 4, 3 and 6, with a mean of 6.6. The estimated mid-latitude A indices were 12, 8, 7, 6, 4, 3, and 5, with a mean of 6.4.

Geomagnetic conditions were quieter, with the planetary and mid-latitude A index most days in the single digits. The average planetary A index declined from 14.1 to 6.6. The predicted daily solar flux is 100 on September 14-15, 95 on September 16-18, 98 on September 19, then 100, 95 and 100 on September 20-22, 110 on September 23-24, then 115, 125 and 130 on September 25-27, 140 on September 28 through October 1, 135 on October 2, and back down to 130 on October 3-5. The predicted planetary A index on September 14-17 is 7, 10, 15 and 10,

then 5 on September 18-19, 8 on September 20-23, 5 on September 24-28, 10 on September 29, 5 on September 30 through October 2, 10 on October 3, and then 8 on October 4-5.

In VHF news, Rich Zwirko, K1HTV, of Amissville, Virginia, wrote to us on September 7, just before the ARRL VHF Contest last weekend: "I was pleasantly surprised to hear 6 meters open via trans-equatorial propagation to South America early Thursday evening, September 6. It started around 2240 and lasted about an hour at my FM18ap location in Virginia. In addition to working PY1RO, PY1NX and PY2XB on CW, I also heard, but did not work LU9EHF and PY1NS weakly on SSB. There is still some magic in the 'Magic Band,'".

Trans-Equatorial Propagation, or TEP, is a special kind of propagation across the equator. A [good description of TEP](#) comes from the Australian Government Radio and Space Weather Services.

Just before we put this bulletin to bed, K1HTV sent this: "Here is some additional info: During last weekend's ARRL VHF contest, I heard three stations in Brazil on 6 meters. I worked PY5EW on SSB and PY2XB on CW. I also heard PY1RO weakly on SSB, but couldn't work him. The 50 MHz TEP path between place in Virginia and the Brazilian stations started around 0005 on September 10 and lasted about 1 hour. Unfortunately, no other South American stations were heard. About 24 hours earlier in the contest, starting around 0000 on the September 9, we had a 90 minute E-s opening to W5 land, working stations in Oklahoma, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas. Again, between 1330 and 1500 Sunday, there was a 6 meter E-s opening from here to Florida."

Rich hopes for a double-peaked Solar Cycle 24, and that the solar activity will be enough to send the MUF on many paths above 50 MHz. Of course, in that case, instead of just Sporadic-E, we would see conventional F-layer ionospheric propagation.

John Jones, N0JK, of Lawrence, Kansas wrote: "The jump in solar activity coupled with some Sporadic-E on 6 meters created opportunities for some great propagation in the ARRL September VHF QSO Party (September 8-10). Both Saturday and Sunday had extended openings from New England, the Mid-Atlantic, Gulf Coast, Arizona and California to South America and the South Pacific. On Sunday, KA9CFD in EN40 spotted PY2XB at 0054 UTC September 10. And what may have been direct F2 from Florida to Ecuador Sunday occurred that afternoon. There was some E-s on Saturday evening from Kansas to Georgia, when W3GMT in EM92, WA4NJP in EM84 and W4IMD in EM84 were loud around 0035 UTC September 8."

Jeff Hartley, N8II, in West Virginia wrote on September 9: "Today was a pretty good day on 15 and 10 meters, with the solar flux only in the 120s, definitely better than Saturday (September 8) with only South America on 10 meters. At 1451, I logged XV4Y (Vietnam) on 15 CW who was running a European pile up; I could not get through until he worked an N2 then started a 'CQ NA only.' Then I tuned 10 meters looking for Europe in the Worked All Europe Contest and heard a voice with polar flutter giving a contest report to an inaudible European station. I swung the Yagi north and 9W2VVH (Western Malaysia class B license) answered my SSB CQ at 1458. He gradually got stronger and went up to S7, running 100 W, once he beamed to USA. After a few more CQs, 9W2WWW answered and was equally as strong. 9W2AXV and 9W2NMX also answered CQs. It was in the 11 PM hour local time in 9W2 when the band peaked.

I didn't work any other Asian stations, but after a dog walking break and lunch around 1700-1815, 10 opened to Europe with some weak and some loud signals from Central and Western Europe, but no propagation to Russia or Northern Europe. I worked 50 stations in 14 European countries in the WAE Contest, quite late in the day."



Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, has some interesting comments about last fall not being the first peak of a double-peaked solar cycle. [Last week](#), we mentioned that the NASA estimate has move the peak of Solar Cycle 24 from spring to fall 2013, with smoothed sunspot numbers higher than earlier forecasts.

Carl wrote: “The smoothed data (whether it be the smoothed sunspot number or the smoothed 10.7 cm solar flux) does not indicate a Cycle 24 peak in the fall of 2011. What happened was the Sun was very active for a couple months, and this was fortuitously in the fall months when the MUF is the highest in the northern hemisphere. The MUF reached more than 28 MHz, which gave us great worldwide 10 meter openings in the CQ World Wide DX Contests and the ARRL 10 Meter Contest. After that, solar activity waned, the MUF fell, and 10 meters wasn’t as good for the ARRL DX and CQ WPX Contests in the less-than-optimum months. Historically, a true peak would be followed by a definite dip in the smoothed indices prior to reaching another peak. Cycles 22 and 23 exhibited this classical behavior. But Solar Cycle 24 just had a leveling-off (as have other solar cycles on their ascent) before continuing its ascent. So we’re still waiting for the first peak of Solar Cycle 24. Whether it has a second peak is anyone’s guess.”

And finally, for an [interesting video](#), visit the [McMath-Pierce Solar Telescope](#) on [Kitt Peak National Observatory](#), located west of Tucson Arizona. While the McMath-Pierce telescope is located on Kitt Peak, it is part of the [National Solar Observatory](#) headquartered in Sunspot Arizona.

### **The MLDXCC NEWSLETTER**

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