

SB DX @ WW < KB8NW \$OPDX.1351
Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin No. 1351

The Ohio/Penn DX PacketCluster
DX Bulletin No. 1351
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February 12, 2018
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Provided by BARF80.ORG (Cleveland, Ohio)
Mostly Written in Strongsville, Ohio
Sent from Murfreesboro, TN

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DXCC COUNTRY/ENTITY REPORT: According to the AR-Cluster Network for the week of Sunday, 4th/February, through Sunday, 11th/February there were 217 countries active. Countries available: 3A, 3B8, 3B9, 3D2, 3DA, 3V, 3W, 3X, 4J, 4L, 4O, 4S, 4X, 5A, 5B, 5H, 5R, 5T, 5V, 5W, 5Z, 6W, 6Y, 7X, 8P, 9A, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9M2, 9M6, 9Q, 9V, 9X, 9Y, A3, A4, A6, A7, A9, AP, BV, BY, C3, C5, C6, C9, CE, CE0Y, CE9, CM, CN, CP, CT, CT3, CU, CX, D2, D6, DL, DU, E4, E5/s, E6, E7, EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, EI, EK, EL, EP, ER, ES, EU, EX, EY, EZ, F, FG, FK, FM, FR, FY, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU, GW, H4, HA, HB, HC, HH, HI, HK, HL, HP, HR, HS, HV, HZ, I, IS, J2, J3, J5, J6, J7, JA, JD/o, JT, JW, JY, K, KH2, KH6, KL, KP2, KP4, LA, LU, LX, LY, LZ, OA, OD, OE, OH, OH0, OK, OM, ON, OX, OY, OZ, P2, P4, PA, PJ2, PJ4, PJ7, PY, PZ, S0, S5, SM, SP, ST, SU, SV, SV5, SV9, T30, T5, T7, T8, TA, TF, TG, TI, TK, TR, TT, TY, TZ, UA, UA2, UA9, UK, UN, UR, V2, V3, V4, V5, V7, V8, VE, VK, VP2E, VP2M, VP5, VP8, VP8/h, VP8/o, VP9, VQ9, VR, VU, XE, XW, XX9, YA, YB, YI, YL, YN, YO, YS, YU, YV, Z2, Z3, Z6, ZA, ZB, ZC4, ZD7, 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".

3Y0I BOUVET DXPEDITION NEWS (Rebooted DXpedition). According to the Web page <https://bouvetoya.org/>, operators Dominik/3Z9DX, Stanislaw/SQ8X, Leszek/SP3DOI, Branko/YU4DX and Frans/J69DS have rebooted their plans to activate Bouvet Island. They state, "Our trip originally planned at the end of 2017 was canceled at the request of the organizers of the '3Y0Z' expedition. Due to the cancellation by the organizers, we are now returning to the implementation of our project and preparations for our trip as a matter of urgency." No dates are mentioned on the Web page, but "DX-WORLD.net" states that they "received info from a Norwegian contact that the 3Y0I license has been renewed. A landing permit has also been issued by the Norwegian Polar Institute. No dates of activity are mentioned, but the permit is good until February 2019. However, DX-World contact suggests activity could be sometime this year." The expedition plans are as follows per the Web page:

How? -- For the purposes of the expedition, a 24-m-high seagoing yacht with a PowerSail sails and 2 engines of 250 HP was chartered. The unit is adapted to move in extreme weather conditions. During the stay on the island, before the bad weather, we will be protected by proper construction of expedition tents.

Where? -- Our expedition will start in South Africa, from where we will sail to the Bouvet Island. We will cover over 2,800 nautical miles in the far South Atlantic. It's over ... 5200 km! After landing on Bouvet Island, we will install a camp and shortwave radio on the glacier plateau (it covers 93% of the island's surface. In good weather, we will get Olavtoppen - the highest

peak of the island rising 760m above sea level.

When? -- Our expedition will take place during the sub-antarctic summer in the Southern Hemisphere. A sea journey in stormy conditions ? will take about 12 days one way. If the weather is favorable for us, we will spend about two weeks on the island. With successful winds, the expedition plan will close in about a month and a half.

Stay tuned for further details.....

3Y0Z BOUVET DXPEDITION NEWS (From 3Y0Z Web page). On February 5th, the captain of the MV Betanzos decided that it was the best interest of safety and expediency to proceed directly to Capetown, South Africa, rather than Punta Arenas, Chile. They also headed north to avoid the possibility of encountering ice and then headed easterly toward Capetown. The entire team was reported safe resting in their bunks and in good spirits.

It was reported on Thursday, February 8th, at 2045 UTC: 49.32 degrees South, 6.73 degrees East. 1,058 nautical miles from Capetown. We are continuing our slow voyage to Capetown, currently making 6 knots, with one of our two engines out. The team is healthy, with plenty of food and water, and working to keep our spirits up. We cannot, however, escape the cloud of disappointment hovering over us and the DX community. We traveled 2700 nautical miles to Bouvet, but the last mile proved to be the most difficult.

As we type this, a tugboat is on its way to assist our vessel to the port of Capetown. We will continue to keep everyone informed, as this saga plays out. We would like to thank all of our friends and families who have been with us every mile of the way. Your good wishes, thoughts and prayers have sustained us over the last three weeks.

Ralph, K0IR
Bob, K4UEE
Erling, LA6VM

ADDED NOTES: Remember to visit the team's media pages (Twitter, Facebook) as well as their Web page to read updates, see pictures and videos of their trip:

3Y0Z Web page: <http://www.bouvetdx.org/news-and-updates>
3Y0Z FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/639362206232014>
3Y0Z Twitter : https://twitter.com/Bouvet_3Y0Z

Also remember to follow their voyage by watching the following URL links:
<https://share.garmin.com/bouvet>

<http://www.marinetraffic.com/en/ais/details/ships/shipid:777230/mmsi:725000291/imo:7310923/vessel:BETANZOS#IrjZAqtjXemvHHQW.99>

60 METERS NEWS. Four new countries are now active on 60 meters:

- * Czech amateurs can access both the new WRC-15 60m amateur secondary allocation of 5351.5-5366.5 kHz and their existing 12 60m channels. The WRC-15 allocation is available on an individual permit basis, with a maximum power of 15W EIRP.
- * The New Zealand national society has negotiated a license to allow limited operation by ZL amateurs on 60m on a trial secondary basis with no interference to primary users. Operation centers on 5353 kHz and 5362-5364 kHz, with a maximum output of 10dBW EIRP.
- * The Icelandic telecoms regulator will now permit access to the new WRC-15 60m allocation from 5351.5-5366.5 kHz on a secondary basis with a maximum power of 15W EIRP, but has ended the previous experimental license privileges. Argentinean amateurs may now use the new WRC-15 amateur 60m secondary allocation of 5351.5-5366.5 kHz, with a regional maximum power limit of 25W EIRP.

6Y5, JAMAICA. By the time you read this, Edmondo, VA3ITA, will be active as VA3ITA/6Y5, from Montego Bay, Jamaica (NA-097), until February 13th. Activity will be on 40-2 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL

via VA3ITA.

9X, RWANDA (Unusual Callsign). By the time you read this, Christian, M0UPL, will be active using the unusual callsigns 9XSDA from Kigali, Rwanda, until February 18th. The suffix "SDA" stands for "Seventh Day Adventist Church". Activity will be on 40 and 20 meters using mainly SSB. QSL via M0UPL direct to: Cristian Panaitescu, 131 Stafford Road, CR0 4NN, Croydon, United Kingdom.

AH2, GUAM. Operators Toshinobu/JI3ERV and Mikawa/JR7OMD will once again be active as AH2R during the ARRL International DX CW Contest (February 17-18th) as a Multi-? entry. QSL via LoTW.

C6, BAHAMAS. Joel, NF3R, will be active as NF3R/C6A from Andros Island (NA-001) between March 6-13th. Activity will be holiday style on 40-6 meters using SSB, RTTY, FT8 and MSK144. He will be using an IC-7300 with 100 watts into a dipole and operating from a houseboat 100 feet from shore. QSL using LoTW or eQSL.

DXCC NEWS (ARRL Announces Mobile DXCC Operating Award). The ARRL posted the following on February 9th, on their Web page:

ARRL this week announced a Mobile DXCC Operating Award available to radio amateurs who have contacted at least 100 DXCC entities from a working vehicle with antennas and power source capable of operating while in motion. ARRL Radiosport Manager Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, advised those pursuing the award to put safety first.

"Distracted driving is a serious concern, so we hope all mobile operators exercise care when operating from a moving vehicle," he said.

Full, official details are on the Mobile DXCC Operating Award page:

<http://www.arrl.org/mobile-DXCC>

Read the complete announcement at:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-announces-mobile-dxcc-operating-award>

DXCC'S MOST WANTED (ClubLog). The "DXCC Most Wanted" entities list has been updated on ClubLog as of February 7th. The list contain 340 entities and the top 10 entities seems to have changed with the addition of Kosovo:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. P5 DPRK (North Korea) | 6. KH1 Baker Howland Islands |
| 2. 3Y/B Bouvet Island | 7. BS7H Scarborough Reef |
| 3. FT5/W Crozet Island | 8. BV9P Pratas Island |
| 4. Z6 Republic of Kosovo | 9. KH7K Kure Island |
| 5. CE0X San Felix Islands | 10. KH3 Johnston Island |

The complete "DXCC Most Wanted" entities list is available at:

<https://secure.clublog.org/mostwanted.php>

FK, NEW CALEDONIA. Operator Arnaud, JG1XMV, will once again be active as FK/JG1XMV from Grande Terre (OC-032) between February 17th and March 3rd. During this time he will be joined by Yves/FK4RD and the two operators will active two other islands [Lifou (OC-033) and Mare (OC-033)] as FK/JG1XMV. Exact schedule for Lifou and Mare will be provided later on QRZ.com under FK/JG1XMV. He intends to stay 3-4 days on each island, but the exact timing has not been decided as it is typhoon season and they will be weather-dependent. Operating conditions will most likely be a vertical with 100w or less. Arnaud will be working SSB mostly between 40-15 meters. Given what the HF conditions are at the moment, they will do their best but are not expecting fabulous conditions. Hopefully, they will get some interested stations throughout Asia and Asia Pacific. Maybe they will get lucky via LP towards Europe as well. NA tends to be a bit touch-and-go depending on where they operate from, but fingers crossed, they hope for a few QSOs in the log. Arnaud may try to activate a few SOTAs, but since his time on Grande Terre will be limited and since he will be traveling with his family, he thinks that at this stage the probability is fairly low. QSL via JG1XMV, direct, by the Bureau or by FK/JG1XMV via LoTW or eQSL.

IOTA NEWS.....

EU-064. Operator Geoffrey/F4FVI, Suly/F4FGV, Chris/F4GTB, Maurice/F5NQL,

Patrice/F6GCP and Fab/F4GYM will be active with a special callsign, TM6N, from Noirmoutier Island during the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 28-29th) as a Multi-Single/Low-Power entry. QSL via F4GYM, by the Bureau, eQSL or LoTW.

- EU-064. A group of YL operators from four different countries will be active as TM64YL from the Island of Noirmoutier between August 25-31st. Operators mentioned are Rosel/DL3KWR, Evelyn/F5RPB, Siggi/DK2YL, Dora/HB9EPE, Joana/DJ5YL, Mado/F1EOY, Anna/TF3VB, Chantal/HB9FRC, Michaela/DL1TM, Claudine/F5JER, Vala/TF3VD, Gabriella/HB9GNP, Marie-Jo/F4***, Eva/HB9FPM and Christine/F4GDI. Activity will be on various HF bands. QSL direct to F4GHS. More details will be forthcoming.
- NA-038. Mikhail, VE7ACN, will be active as VA7XW/VE2 from Havre Aubert Island between April 2-9th. Activity will be on various HF bands. QSL via VE7ACN, direct, by the Bureau, ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW. Visit his Web page at: <https://www.ve7acn.com>
- NA-075. By the time you read this, Mikhail, VE7ACN, will be active as VE7ACN/7 from South Pender Island until February 14th. Activity will be on various HF bands. However, he was active during this past weekend's CQWW WPX RTTY Contest. QSL via VE7ACN, direct, by the Bureau, ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW. Visit his Web page at: <https://www.ve7acn.com>
- NA-084. Mikhail, VE7ACN, will be active as VE7ACN/VE2 from Harrington Island between April 10-17th. Activity will be on various HF bands. QSL via VE7ACN, direct, by the Bureau, ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW. Visit his Web page at: <https://www.ve7acn.com>
- NA-091. Mikhail, VE7ACN, will be active as VE7ACN/7 from Quadra Island between March 13-19th. Activity will be on various HF bands. QSL via VE7ACN, direct, by the Bureau, ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW. Visit his Web page at: <https://www.ve7acn.com>
- OC-265. (Update) Andy, VK5MAV, will be active as VK5MAV/9 from Cato Reef between April 9-16th. Activity will be on various HF bands. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS or via RN3RQ.

PLEASE NOTE: Since the Webmasters of the new <www.iota-world.org> have decided NOT to post or dedicate a Web page to announce upcoming IOTA operations, PLEASE send your IOTA operations information to the OPDX and we will post it here in an upcoming bulletin.....

JD1, OGASAWARA. Nobuaki, JA0JHQ, will once again (7th time) be active as JD1BOW from Chichijima Island (AS-031) between February 21-24th. Activity will be on 160-15 meters using CW and the Digital modes. His main purpose is to operate 160m CW and Digital Modes (FT8, RTTY, PSK31) on 20m. Equipment will be a a TS-480HX (200w on HF, 100w on 6m) into a Micro-vertical, Single Delta loop and End Feed antennas. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the Bureau. Visit his Blog page at: <http://pandasan.jimdo.com>

KH6, HAWAII. David, OK6DJ, will be active as KH6/OK6DJ from Oahu Island (OC-019) between February 14-21st. Activity will be on 40/30/20 meters using CW and the Digital modes. He will also be on during the ARRL International DX CW Contest (February 17-18th). QSL via home call, LoTW, ClubLog's OQRS or eQSL. QSL direct to: David Beran, Dolni Kamenice 55, Holysov 34562, Czech Republic. Please do not send QSLs to OK6DJ via the Bureau. Use the OQRS to request your "one-way" Bureau QSL. Bureau QSLs are so much faster "one-way" with OQRS. All QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW and eQSL 6 months after the DXpedition.

LY100, LITHUANIA (Special Event). As of February 1st, special event stations with different LY100 callsigns (LY100A-LY100Z), have been active and will be active until February 28th, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Lithuania's independence. The LY100V station was active this past week-

end during the CQWW WPX RTTY Contest. QSL LY100V via the Bureau or direct, eQSL and LoTW. Special PDF diplomas will be issued for amateur radio operators who will work at least 10 commemorative special call signs from the range of LY100A-LY100Z. To collect the electronic diploma, please send a free-form e-mail to hhq@lrmd.lt with the call sign which is eligible for the award. Printed diplomas might be available upon request. Additionally, special commemorative souvenirs from the Seimas of Lithuania will be available for the most active stations for the highest number of QSOs with different LY100 call signs in different bands and modes. Five different stations from LY, Europe and world will be eligible for this award. For more details, see QRZ.com.

NEW OFFICERS FOR 2018. The following have been elected for the 2018 South Jersey DX Association Officers:

- President -- Bob Schenck, N200
- V. President -- Stephen Sullivan, KZ2I
- Secretary -- Stephen Molo, KI4KWR
- Treasurer -- Bob Pantazes, W2ARP
- Visit the SJDXA Web site at: <http://www.sjdxa.org>

P4, ARUBA. Operators Bruce/AA5B, Steven/AA7V, Ray/K9RS and Art/N3DXX will be active as P40E from Aruba Island (SA-036) during the ARRL International DX CW Contest (February 17-18th) as a Multi-Single entry. QSL via K9QVB or LoTW. ADDED NOTE: P40E is a re-issued call sign. It was used by José Nunes, CT1BOH, in 2002. QSL via W3HNC or LoTW.

PACIFIC TOUR. Gerhard, OE3GEA, has started a two month Pacific tour on February 4th, and has already visited Viti Levu Island (OC-016), Fiji (3D2GE), and Tonga (A31GE) this past week. He is expected to be active as ZL/OE3GEA in New Zealand between February 14-20th. The rest of his schedule is as follows:

- February 21-24th -- Rarotonga, South Cook Islands; signing as E51GEA
- February 25th-March 10th -- Society Islands, French Polynesia; signing as FO/OE3GEA

March 11-20th -- Hilo and Honolulu, Hawaii; signing as KH6/OE3GEA

Activity will be holiday style on 30-10 meters (possibly 40/6m). QSL via OE3GEA, direct or by the Bureau.

PJ2, CURACAO. Thilo, DL9NBJ, will once again be active as PJ2/DL9NBJ from Westpunt, Curacao (SA-099), between February 13-28th. Using an Elecraft KX3 with a KXPA100 100 watt PA into vertical wire dipole, 12m fiberglass pole and a ZS6BKW. Look for him on the HF bands operating CW and SSB. QSL only via ClubLog's OQRS. He states, "Please no SASE and no cards via Bureau. I don't need your cards, I will put it into trash can."

PJ2, CURACAO. Arno, PB1HF, will be active as PJ2/PB1HF from Curacao (SA-099) between March 7-21st. Activity will be on various HF bands. QSL via PB1HF, LoTW, eQSL, QRZ.com, direct QSL on request.

PROPAGATION FORECAST/REPORT (February 12-18th).....

Feb/12th AN	Feb/15th AN	Feb/17th AN
Feb/13th AN	Feb/16th AN	Feb/18th HN
Feb/14th AN		

SOLAR REFERENCE KEYS/INDEXES AND GEOMAGNETIC REFERENCE

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

REALTIME BAND CONDITIONS WEB SITE <http://www.bandconditions.com>:

The purpose of this experimental Web site is to provide 24-7-365 actual

(REALTIME) band condition information to CW QRPp, QRPe and CW/SSB for Contesters interested in increasing their scores. It can also be of benefit to other Radio Amateurs to determine band conditions for Nets and casual QSO's. This information is NOT based on any software predictions or any kind of satellite based readings. It is based on a new Ionospheric sounding method called "HF Ionospheric Interferometry" which operates very similarly to the PolSAR system used by NASA.

Also, check out the VOACAP predication Web page at:

<http://www.voacap.com/prediction.html>

A daily HF radio wave propagation forecast can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/thomasfranklingiellaw4hm>

Also on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/@GiellaW4hm>

QSL INFO AND NEWS.....

QSL-INFO from DB0SDX by Lothar, DL1SBF (February 11th) <www.qslinfo.eu>

5B4ALX via IZ4AMS HH2AA via NR6M & (L) SF6F via SA6FOL (L)
9K57NLD via 9K57NLD (O) II4HRZ via IQ4FE SK0EN via SM0DFP
CT7/DJ7PR via DJ7PR J52EC via IZ3BUR (d) TO7D via F6ITD (d/L)
DA0WRTC via DJ9MH K5C via W5NAC & (L) UE95AE via UE95AE (O)
DL/OE5RTP/P via OE5RTP LY100CY via LY9Y UE95GA via RZ5D
DL100BY via DK2PZ OZ0JX via OZ0JX (L/e) UE95ME via UE95ME (O)
DR18WRD via M0SDV (O/L) OZ30EU via OZ8IE W7A via KW7Y (L)
EA8/ON4FI/P via ON4FI PA/DL8ECA/M via DL8ECA YU70EXY via YU1EXY
EF5FMC via EA5BX PF2018SNK via PA0MBD & (L) ZF2LC via W2SM (L)
EF9R via EA5KB (d/L) PG55G via PD7YY ZF9CW via K5GO and LoTW
EI50AOM via EI2KA PG6G via PA3GVI ZS1/R1CC via DJ1ND

(e) eQSL only (d) direct only (B) Bureau only (*-B) DX's- Bureau
(O) OQRS only (C) ClubLog only (L) LoTW only (N) No QSL needed
(I) No IRC (P) PayPal

LOGS ONLINE AT CLUBLOG.ORG THIS WEEK.....

<https://secure.clublog.org/logsearch/C81G> **
<https://secure.clublog.org/logsearch/P29VXG>
<https://secure.clublog.org/logsearch/T88RF>
<https://secure.clublog.org/logsearch/XU7YTT>

** Gerben, PG5M, informs OPDX [edited], "I had the OQRS on ClubLog not correctly activated, hence people could not request direct cards for C81G. This is now corrected and directs requests can be made now."

QSLs RECEIVED VIA LoTW: 2E00XF, 3C0L, 3C1L, 9Z4Y, DL1CLM, DL1SMA, DL4WQ, DL9CG, ES100A...Z, F4ESV, F5PAL, F6GLF, GM0NRT, HB9ACA, HK4FZ, OH8AA, OM3JW, R0CAF, R2AAR, RV3YR, S52D, S57YX, SP3QDM, SP9KR, SQ7OWZ, T40HQ, T88RF, VA2LGT, VE2YNI, VK9AA, Z60A, ZA1WW, ZC4A and ZS1XG

QSLs RECEIVED VIA MAIL: 3C0L (AF-039), 3C1L (AF-010), 3XY3D/P (AF-096), 5K0T, 9U4M, CE0Y/LU9VEA, HC8LUT, RI1F (EU-190), TO2SP, TS8TI (AS-083), VK9MA and YS/HR2DMR

QSLs RECEIVED VIA THE BUREAU: 6K3GII, 6K5BFZ, 6K5UQN, 6M0NU, D90HE, DR1517LU, DS1TDS, DS2BJW, DS3EXX, DS4NPL, DS5TOS, DT0IT, ES17EU, HL1IWD, HL2WA, HL3EFM, HL4CBI, HL5BLF, HL72V, HS0ZLT, SC40VIC, SC90SSA, SE90IARU, SV5/DK7TX, TX3D, WP4JLU, XR1T (SA-069) and ZS6GRL

T2, TUVALU. Tony, 3D2AG, will once again be active as T2AR from Funafuti Atoll (OC-015) between March 6-13th. Activity will be limited (due to work; 0430-1300z, 1730-2000z) on various HF bands as well as 2 and 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, JT65 and FT8. QSL via 3D2AG or PayPal.

T48, CUBA. Members of the Las Tunas Contest Crew, T48K, will be active during the ARRL International DX CW Contest (February 17-18th) as a Multi-2 entry. Look for some early operations starting February 13th. Operators mentioned are Carlos/CX7CO/SM0KCO, Goran/SM0DRD/Goran/SM5SIC, Alex/CO8KA and Raúl/CO8ZZ. QSL via DK1WI.

T8, PALAU. Will, AA4NC, will be active as T8NC from Palau during the ARRL International DX CW Contest as a Single-Op/All-Band/Low-Power entry. QSL via AA4NC.

V3, BELIZE. Operators Robert/K5PI (V31AT), Leigh/WC0T, John/WC0W (V31TP) Stephen/WW0G & XYL Nancie/NM0C, and Karl/AD0KH will compete in the ARRL International DX CW Contest (February 17-18th) as a Multi-Single entry from Cahal Pech Village in Western Belize. They will use V3T for the contest callsign. QSL via WC0W or LoTW (no ClubLog). Look for operations before and after the contest by the operators. They will mostly focus on CW and on the 30/17/12 meter bands. QSL to their home callsigns or possibly LoTW.

V3, BELIZE. Operators Torsten/DG7RO and Alexandra/DO5ALX are once again active as V31TF and V31RU, respectively, until February 25th. Activity will be on various HF bands using SSB, RTTY, and some FT8. They were active this past weekend during the CQWW WPX RTTY Contest but will also be in the ARRL International DX CW (February 17-18th) and CQ WW 160m SSB (February 23-25th) contests. QSL for both callsign via their home callsigns, direct, by the Bureau, ClubLog or LoTW.

VP6D DUCIE ISLAND DXPEDITION NEWS (Press Release #2, dated February 8th). [edited] VP6D Ducie Island 2018 DX-pedition (OC-182)-- Joining the team is Vadym, UT6UD. An active DX-peditioner, he has operated as H44UD, A35UD, S21XV, FO/UT6UD from Austral and Marquesas Islands, FG/UT6UD. He was a member of the 2016 VK0EK DX-pedition to Heard Island. Many will recognize Vadym from his 160 activity.

We're happy to announce that 6 meter EME was added to the project. With planning support from Lance, W7GJ, and the 6 meter community, we hope to make the first ever 6m EME QSOs from Ducie Island.

We're working with several amateur radio equipment manufacturers and suppliers who indicated interest in supporting VP6D. Onboard already are Arlan Communications for RadioSport headsets, DX-Engineering for antenna and other supplies and GM00BX Custom Cables offered their support. We're in the process of formalizing agreements with other manufacturers.

The logistics plan is coming together. Our equipment will be consolidated in Fremont, California, for testing, packaging and shipment to the Braveheart in New Zealand. The team has a group reservation for our flight transportation from Papeete to Mangareva and back. Braveheart will pick us up in Mangareva and return us there at the end of the expedition

Detailed antenna plans are coming together nicely with 2-element vertical dipole arrays on the high bands backed up by a couple of horizontal beams, 4-squares on 30 / 40 meters and verticals on 80 / 160 meters. The 160 receiving antenna plans are under development.

With the cost of DX-peditions to remote islands increasing each year, we kicked off our fund-raising campaign with a generous grant from the Northern California DX Foundation, quickly followed by other DX clubs and foundations. We appreciate the individuals who are supporting the project with their donations. A current list of all donors is available at:
vp6d.com

VP6/D continues to be ranked in the top 25 Most Wanted, now at #21.

73, Team Ducie - 2018

Website: vp6d.com, Twitter and Facebook

Please direct questions to: info@vp6d.com

WWII PACIFIC ISLANDS TOUR. Operators Will/AA4NC and Ron/AA4VK will be make stops at six islands that were significant in America's battles in the Pacific in World War II between February 13th and March 7th. Stops include, Oahu, Palau, Peleliu, Saipan, Tinian, and Guam and include visits to battle fields and war memorials, in addition to Radio operations from T8, KH0, KH2, and KH6. Their tentative schedule is as follows:

February 14-19th -- Palau Island (T8); Will/AA4NC will sign T8NC and Ron/AA4VK will sign T8VK; activity will be holiday style using SSB, CW and RTTY; on 160-10 meters; AA4NC will also operate in the ARRL International DX CW Contest as T8NC

February 20-25th -- Saipan (KH0); signing KH0/AA4NC and KH0/AA4VK; activity will be holiday style using SSB, CW and RTTY; on 160-10 meters

February 25-28th -- Guam (KH2); signing KH2/AA4NC and KH2/AA4VK; activity will be holiday style using SSB, CW and RTTY; on 160-10 meters

March 1-8th -- Hawaii (KH6); Randy, N0TG, will join AA4NC and AA4VK in KH6 for a radio reunion (for past operations KP1, KP5, CY9, and CY0); activity will be holiday style using SSB, CW and RTTY; on 160-10 meters; Also, AA4NC will operate in the ARRL International DX SSB Contest at KH6LC

QSLs for all operations are by each operator's home call signs.....

XU7, CAMBODIA. Andrea "Andy", IK7YTT, will be active as XU7YTT from Cambodia between February 9-14th. Activity will be on various HF bands. QSL via IW7EGQ.

XX9B MACAO DXPEDITION NEWS (dated February 10th). [edited] Claudio, PY2MC, informs that Sarath, VU3RSB, has joined the team that will operate XX9B Macau in March 2018. For more details, refer to OPDX.1349/1350 or visit the XX9B Web page at: <http://xx9b.py2sex.com>

Z6, KOSOVO. DXCC newest entity continues to be very active on the bands to celebrate its entry on the DXCC list and celebrating Kosovo's 10th anniversary of independence (February, 2008). Look for Z60A to be in the ARRL International DX CW Contest (February 17-18th). As this was being written, ClubLog shows (as of 1549z, February 10th) that Z60A has made a total of 64795 QSOs with 22525 unique call signs: 38119/CW, 21107/SSB and 5569/RTTY. The breakdown by continent is: 477/AF, 6537/AS, 43950/EU, 12975/NA, 278/OC and 578/SA. QSL via OH2BH.

ENHANCED QSL SERVICE FOR Z60A OPERATION NOW UNDERWAY.

The ClubLog QORS system is set to cover the cost of direct QSL postage USDs 3.00, while also allowing voluntarily, private contributions. All donations small or large are most welcome to support SHRAK, the Kosovo Amateur Radio Association to aid in recruiting additional Kosovar youth and to activate the existing Amateur Radio operators and support their activities.

As many have requested confirmations during the ongoing activation, it has been decided to do an immediate LoTW and fast direct QSL service for those who contribute USDs 20.00 or more. This option would not delay any of the traditional QSL options, but just put a priority on those who are willing to help Kosovo Amateur Radio finally move beyond the past ten difficult years.

If you wish to upgrade your earlier QSL request to this enhanced service you can send your donation through the ClugLog:

https://secure.clublog.org/make_donation.php?call=Z60A

On behalf of the Project Goodwill Kosovo,

Martti Laine, OH2BH

(Reminder by N7NG) CLARIFICATION OF THE Z60A LOTW UPLOAD TIMING:

The complete Z60A log will be uploaded approximately four weeks after the current activation. The current activation will end immediately following Kosovo's 10th independence anniversary celebrations on Sunday, February, 18 2018. The additional four-week window will allow for corrections and checking for potentially busted calls.

ZF2, CAYMAN ISLAND (Satellites, Grids, HF). Adrian, AA5UK, will once again be operating as ZF2AE from Grand Cayman (between March 1-4th) and ZF2AE/ZF8 from Little Cayman (between March 5-10). Activity will be holiday style (usually) on 40-10 meters using a IC-7300 and vertical antenna. Operations will be focused on the Digital modes (FT8, RTTY, PSK and other digital modes upon request) with possibly some SSB, and the satellites using 2x FT-817s and Arrow Antenna for satellite. Most of his activity will be in the afternoons and evenings. For the latest operational updates, watch his Twitter links <@AA5UK and @ ZF2AE>. QSL direct to AA5UK with a SAE/SASE, LoTW or eQSL.

TO BE ADDED TO THE OPDX MAILING LIST -- Click or send requests to:
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OPDX WORLD-WIDE WEB HOME PAGE (provided by John, K8YSE):

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

NOW ON TWITTER: https://twitter.com/kb8nw_opdx

ALSO VISIT THE NORTHERN OHIO DX ASSOCIATION'S WEB PAGES AT:

<http://www.nodxa.org/>

<http://www.facebook.com/NorthernOhioDxAssociation>

* All excerpts and distribution of "The OPDX Bulletin" are granted as long as KB8NW/OPDX/BARF80 receives credit.

** To contribute DX info, please send via InterNet Mail to:

kb8nw@barf80.nshore.org OR kb8nw@arrl.net OR kb8nw@hotmail.com

Information can now be faxed to the following phone line at:

1-419-828-7791 (F A X only!)

/EXIT

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