



Long Path



Volume 27 Issue 8

SEMDXA NEWSLETTER

May 2010



President's Report

The **Y19** has come and gone (or is it gone and come home). Over 50,000 QSOs isn't all bad and it seemed from the Cluster that they were everywhere working Europeans. The **SEMDXA** logo is on the websites of **Y19PSE**, **3W6C** and the Ukrainian DXpeditioners Team (UDXT) who are going to **T31**, **5W0** and **ZK3** in late May and early June.

The **JD1** DXpedition with our secretary, Stan, **AC8W**, is now history. They have gone back to Japan for some touring and sight seeing and should have arrived back in Michigan right after Michigan QSO Party. I'm sure that Stan will have some stories to tell about their visit to Chichijima Island in the Ogasawara group and the North American attenuator. It looks like they finished with 8017 QSOs for the trip with the vast majority of activity was with Asia.

With the Dayton Hamvention® being the second weekend in May, the next **SEMDXA** meeting will be May 21 - the third Friday in May. I hope to see everyone there and hear what came back from Dayton with you. At the Hamvention, stop by the QRP-ARCI booth and say hi!

73, Hank, **K8DD**

April Minutes

Called to order at 7:30 pm by President Hank **K8DD**. Twenty members and five guests present at Jimi's Restaurant in Royal Oak.

Minutes of the March 2010 meeting were printed in the *Long Path*. A motion to accept the meeting minutes was made and seconded and the motion passed.

Jim **KB8TXZ** reminded all to sign-in.

Treasurer Brad **N8SNM** reports a February 27 balance of \$790.27. \$60 in dues were deposited and paid out \$ 87.77. Balance now \$763.01. A motion to accept the treasurers report was made and seconded and the motion passed.

SEMDXA Meeting is May 21

Bob, K8VFFV, is preparing the election nominations list. Contact him if interested in a SEMDXA position.

INSIDE ...

- ◆ **More on Flag & Pennant Antennas**
- ◆ **Central Kiribati and Tokelau Dxpediton**
- ◆ **Marion Island ZS9M**
- ◆ **Tokelau**

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

We received a thank you for our donation to the 3W6C DXpedition team and our logo can be found on their web site under club sponsors.

We received a request for a donation form the Ukrainian DXpedition team. The hat was passed around.

Stan **AC8W** (JD1BNK) is on an expedition to the island of Ogasawara which is located in the Pacific Ocean within the Bonin Islands chain about 600 miles south of Tokyo. Check out the web site for more details on Stan's expedition.

SEMDXA OFFICERS

President: Hank Kohl, **K8DD**

Vice-president: Bob Crawford, **K8VFFV**

Treasurer: Brad Nowak, **N8SNM**

Secretary: Stan Arnett, **AC8W**

Program Directors:

Dave De Rain, **K8ESQ**

Lee Dziekan, **N8LJ**

Director: Sean Fleming, **K8KHZ**

Club Appointees:

Web Site Editor: Ken Schang, **W8LU**

LP Publisher: Chet Sprinkle, **K8YTO**

ARRL and CQ Appointees:

DXCC Checker: Stan Arnett, **AC8W**

DXCC Checker: Bill Jones, **N8KF**

VUCC Checker: Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

VUCC Checker: Jim Sanford, **K8ZZU**

CQ Checker: Mike Rudzki, **N8MR**

CQ Checker: Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

Ogasawara 2010.com.

Our May meeting will be the Third Friday in May, (May 21, 2010) after the Dayton Hamvention.

Club elections are coming up in June and we are looking for a nominating committee.

Michigan QSO Party is next weekend. Remember to list your *SEMDXA* on your contest log submission.

Lee **N8LJ** introduced our guest speakers Larry **W8VVG**, George **W8UVZ**, George **K8GG**.

Larry **W8VVG** retired four years ago and now finds he is more active in ham radio since his retirement. A year ago he started actively chasing DX on 160m. With the help of his Waller Flag receiving antenna he has worked 123 stations on 160m. The antenna has a long history starting in 1919. The Waller Flag antenna is very quiet and has a very good directivity. The performance is comparable with the BWF and has -53 dB gain. Two 18—20 db preamps are necessary to bring the signal to a comfortable level. Larry uses a Battle Creek Special for TX.

George **K8GG** gave us a refresher course on the Battle Creek Special antenna. The antenna is for 40m, 80m and 160m with a ground net of wires as radials. The antenna is 48 feet tall and has two traps for 40m and 80m. It is the twentieth anniversary of the Battle Creek Special. Many DXpeditions have traveled around the world with the antenna and have used it with good results.

On 40m the antenna is a stretched lambda/4 vertical. On 80m and 160m it is working as an inverted -L with a vertical part, built with aluminum tubes and two inverted -L parts made with wire. Use as many radials as possible with lengths greater than 18 meters. The antenna also has an all wire version.

We collected \$76.00 dollars for the Ukrainian DXpedition team.

After the program the meeting evolved to general fellowship.

Jim **KB8TXZ** for Stan, **AC8W** Secretary

George Goldstone W8AP, SK

Long time *SEMDXA* Member **W8AP** is SK.

George had not attended *SEMDXA* Meetings in recent years, but he always kept his membership status up to date. **W8AP's** XYL, Bea, is also a Radio Amateur and attended the *SEMDXA* Meetings with George. Here is the Oakland Press obituary for George:

Published: Saturday, April 24, 2010
(The Oakland Press)

GOLDSTONE, GEORGE HENRY; age 92; of Bloomfield Hills; died April 22, 2010; at his home.

Born June 17, 1917 in Detroit to Dr. Rubee Goldstone and Grace Goldstone, as a child he loved in Watkins Glen, New York while his father was in the Army Medical Corps in World War I in France. Following his father's return, he grew up in Detroit graduating from Northwestern High School, from the University of Michigan Law School in 1940.

George proudly served his country for 5 years during World War II as a member of the 3rd Infantry Division, landing and fighting in North Africa in 1942. An Army Captain, he was the division radio communications officer assigned to the Third Signal Company. He was also called upon to use his legal skills in a later assignment to Fifth Army Headquarters in

Italy. George stayed in contact with his army corps throughout his life, attending many reunions across the United States and was an active member of the Society of the Third Infantry and of Third Infantry Outpost 13.

Eager to build a law career after the war was over, he practiced law for 50 years before retiring. George was highly esteemed by his clients and colleagues, established his own practice, and was a 'lawyer's lawyers', known for his integrity, expertise and professional commitment. He maintained his membership in the State Bar Association until his death.

As a teenager, George became interested in the then emerging technology of amateur radio, an interest he maintained throughout his life. This knowledge of radio served him well when he was in the service and as a hobby brought him much pleasure and many friends. He was a lifetime member of the American Radio Relay League, an active member of both the Detroit Amateur Radio Association and Southeastern Michigan DX Club, and served as editor of both the Detroit Amateur Radio Association Bulletin and the Third Signal Company Newsletter.

A dedicated citizen with a strong sense of pride in his local community and country, George generously contributed to his community, volunteering many hours to the Trowbridge Farms Subdivision Association and participating in many community issues within the City of Bloomfield Hills.

In 1959, George married Beatrice Shortridge, who survives him. Loving husband, father, and grandfather, he is also survived by his son, Joseph (Lane Halley) Goldstone and daughter, Elizabeth (Greg) Hartz and grandchildren, Tommy, Christine, and Rebecca Hartz; also survived by his sister, Ellen Spero; niece, Drs. Regine (Michael) Silver; grandnephew, Daniel Silver; nieces, Janis (Steve) Garich and first cousin, George (Barbara) Klein. George was

known for his historical knowledge of the greater Detroit area but also his ties to the Upper Peninsula, where he had built a cottage on Lake Michigan. He will be sorely missed by his family and many friends who regarded him with warmth and respect.

Services will be held at the **Ira Kaufman Chapel** on April 25, 2010 at 1 p.m. Interment follows at Beth El Memorial Park in Livonia. The family will welcome friends at their home after the Burial and the evenings of April 27 and 28, 2010. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the American Heart Association or Beaumont Hospital.

<http://theoaklandpress.com/articles/2010/04/24/obituaries/1573015.txt>

Ted, **K8NA**

Flag and Pennant Receiving Antennas (Topband post by **K6SE**)

Here is a basic description of the Flag and Pennant antennas by **K6SE** from a 1999 post on the contesting .com reflector.

"Briefly, the Pennant and Flags are in the Ewe family, however, unlike the Ewe, they are independent of any connection to ground.

Both the Pennant and the Flag are 14 feet by 29 feet in size. The triangular Pennant was given its name by me because of its shape. The other configuration, being rectangular, I decided to call the "Flag".

All modeling for these antennas was done with the tops of the antennas at 20 feet high and the bottoms at 6 feet high, with all wire #14 gauge.

The correct termination resistor for the Pennant is approximately 900 ohms, which can go either at the point of the Pennant or in the center of the vertical section. The feed point is at the opposite end.

The correct termination value for the Flag is about 950 ohms, which goes in the center of either vertical section, with the feed point in the center of the other vertical section.

Both antennas are directional with a cardioid azimuth pattern with a deep null to the rear, just like the Ewe. They are useful on 160m, 80m and 40m as a receiving antenna.

Like the Ewe or the **K9AY** loop, the usefulness of these antennas is badly degraded when in the presence of a vertical transmitting antenna. **K6UR** has solved this problem for his Flag by grounding out his tower's shunt feed with a relay while receiving.

The reason for the Pennant and Flag designs was to come up with an Ewe type of receiving antenna which was as independent of earth ground as possible.

In an effort to overcome the Ewe's major problem of being so susceptible to underlying soil conductivity, about a year ago Jose, **EA3VY**, designed an antenna he called a "terra-proof Ewe". He sent me an EZNEC file of the antenna. It was pennant-shaped and was about 13' by 23'. I noticed that Jose's antenna had a low amount of reactance on 160m and I started tweaking the antenna size and termination value in an attempt to improve it. The result is what I've posted here, but **EA3VY** certainly deserves credit for being the first to come up with the basic design.

And indeed the Pennant and Flag are "terra-proof", as Jose calls it.

73, de Earl, **K6SE**"

More Information : Flag and Pennant Antennas

Before you charge off and put together one of these antennas you may want to check the internet for more information. Here are a few sources of information.

K6SE's article on these antennas appeared in the July 2000 issue of QST.

WA1ION's article on "Pennant Antenna with Remote Termination Control" contains improvement and performance information. The new link is:

<http://home.comcast.net/~markw1ion/exaol2/pennant.htm>

He also has a list of various articles and links at:

<http://www.qsl.net/wa1ion/>

K3KY has put together a compendium of information on flag and pennant antennas. Some of the links are broken. You may need to do a Google search to find where information has moved to. See:

<http://www.angelfire.com/md/k3ky/page37.html>

K8YTO

For Sale By **K8VFV**

Icom 746PRO with high stability crystal oscillator for sale. It comes with the hand mic and Icom PS-125 power supply. \$1000

Bob, **K8VFV**

Central Kirabati (#29) and Tokelau (#58) DXpedition

During May and June, the Ukrainian DXpeditioners Team (UDXT) will be activating Samoa, Central Kiribati (# 29 most needed), and Tokelau (#58 most needed) during their "Pacific Odyssey DXpedition.

UDXT team members are team leader Sergey, **UX0HX**, Oleg, **RK3FA**, Alex, **UT5UY**, Yuriy, **UT1HF**, Oleg, **US7UX**, and Leo, **UR3HR**, and Yuriy Grushevskiy.

They plan to be active on all HF bands and 6M (?) and all modes from:

- ◆ **5W0OX**, Samoa (OC-097), May 18 - 19
- **T31X**, Central Kiribati (OC-043), Kanton Island, May 22 - June 1
- ◆ **ZK3X**, Tokelau (OC - 048), June 2 - 6

See their website:

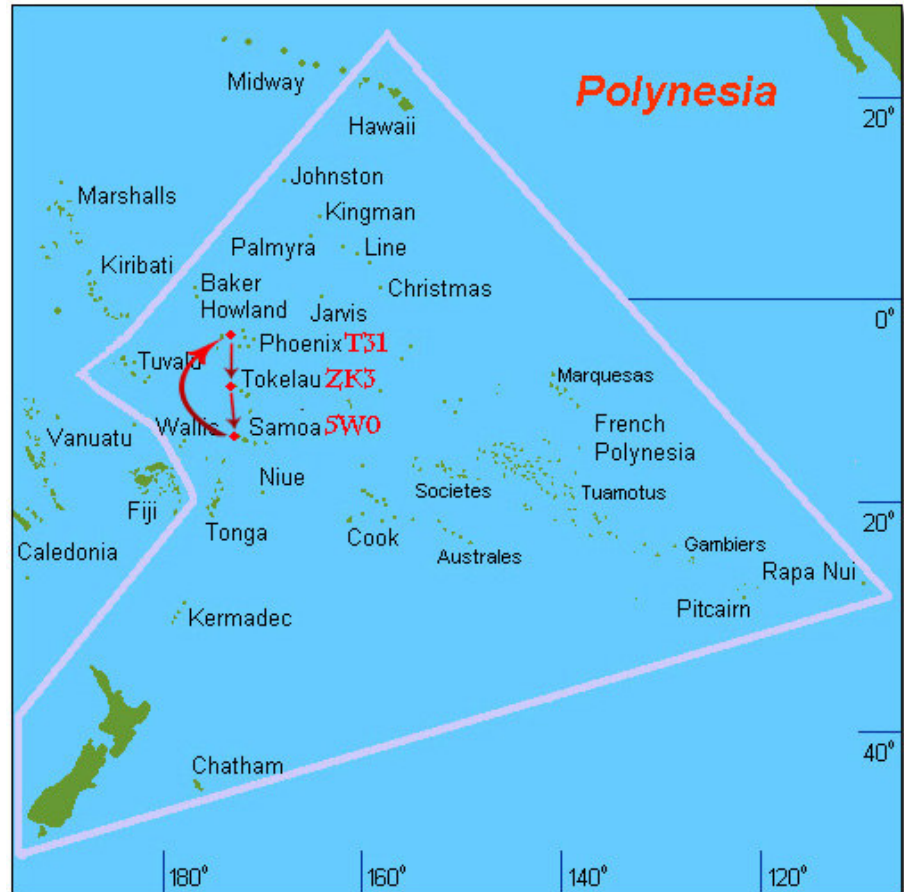
<http://www.uz1hz.com/pacificodyssey.html> K8YTO

Marion Island, ZS8M, #3 Most Needed

Pierre, **ZS1HF**, arrived on Marion Island on April 15. He will be staying there for a year and will be operating as **ZS8M** in SSB and digital modes only. Due to risk to birds, he will be using wire antennas.

Pierre has been using a QRZ forum to communicate with hams. QRV in May? Google "ZS8M forum". Also see <http://www.zs8m.com/>

The May 2008 *Long Path* included an article on Marion Island. **K8YTO**



Central Kiribati (Phoenix Islands) and Tokelau May—June Activations

PACIFIC ODYSSEY EQUIPMENT

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| • TRANSCEIVERS | 2 x Elecraft K3
1 x Yaesu FT100D |
| • ANTENNAS | 18m Top Loaded Vertical
for 10-7-3.8-3.5-1,8 MHz
12m Top Loaded Vertical
for 21-14-10-7 MHz
Vertical Dipole Array Stack
for 21-14-7 MHz
Vertical Dipole Array for 28
-24-18 MHz |
| • AMPLIFIERS | 2 x Acom 1010 |

Tokelau

Tokelau consists of three atolls, Atafu, Fakaofu, and Nukunonu, each with a lagoon surrounded by a number of reef-bound islets of varying length and rising to over 3 m above sea level. Located in the west central part of Polynesia (Oceania), Tokelau is about 300 miles north of Samoa. The land area is about 17 times the size of The Mall in Washington, DC.

The following is from Wikipedia:

“The name *Tokelau* is a Polynesian word meaning "north wind". The islands were officially named the *Union Islands* and *Union Group* at unknown times. *Tokelau Islands* was adopted in 1946, which was contracted to *Toke-lau* on 9 December 1976.”

Originally settled by Polynesian emigrants from surrounding island groups, the Tokelau Islands were made a British protectorate in 1889. They were transferred to New Zealand administration in 1925. Referenda held in

2006 and 2007 to change the status of the islands from that of a New Zealand territory to one of free association with New Zealand did not meet the needed threshold for approval.

Tokelau has fewer than 1,500 Polynesian inhabitants in three villages. The very limited natural resources and overcrowding are contributing to emigration to New Zealand and Samoa, resulting in a population decline of about 0.9% per year. Depletion of tuna has made fishing for food more difficult.

A fourth island that is culturally, historically, and geographically, but not politically, part of the Tokelau chain is Swains Island (Olohega), under United States control since about 1900 and administered as part of American Samoa since 1925. The island was claimed by the United States pursuant to the Guano Islands Act as were the other three islands of Tokelau, which claims were ceded to Tokelau by treaty in 1979. In the draft constitution of Tokelau subject to the Tokelauan self-determination referendum in 2006, Olohega is claimed as part of

Tokelau, a claim surrendered in the same 1979 treaty which established a boundary between American Samoa and Tokelau.”

Tokelau is in the same time zone as Hawaii, not neighboring Samoa and American Samoa.

K8YTO

SEMDXA Election

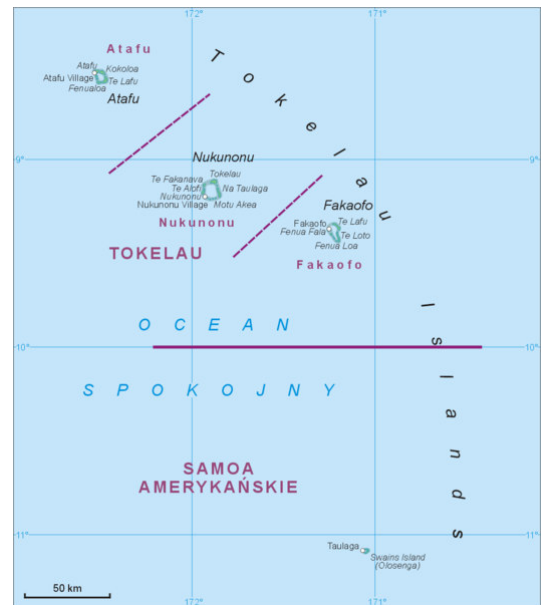
Please EMAIL me if you are interested in a position in SEMDXA

Bob, K8VFB

(Use his call@arrl.net—ED)



**Atafu Atoll, Tokelau Islands
(Source: Nasa)**



DX Activity

Brutal is the word that comes to mind for propagation conditions in April. Much of the time “SFI” was in the 70’s and “A” hit maximums in the 70’s.

Several **SEMDXA** members commented that it was a month of very few new band and mode counters. They also remarked that at times the noise on the bands was very strong.

I can’t help but contrast April with February when at times the 20 through 12 meter bands were open for long stretches, with the Pacific, Africa, Asia, and Europe all being workable.

Pierre, **ZS8M** should be starting operation soon. He wanted to take an amp with him. Let’s hope he did. See the short article in this issue of the Long Path. QRV around May 12 to 15.

The ten man **E4X** Palestine DXpedition begins May 28. They will be ac-

tive from 6 to 160 meters in CW, SSB and RTTY. At least three stations will be active at the same time. See their website for online log and other info.

Haru, **JA1XGI/W8XGI**, will be active from Western Kiribati as **T30XG** (or **T30/T32XG**) from June 3 – 9. Activity will be on 40 to 6m, CW and digital modes.

Phil, **TT8PK**, Chad, has not been very active. There are very few DX Summit spots for him.

DT8A has been operational for quite sometime.

T31X and **ZK3X**—see article in this issue for info.

Harry, **JD1BMH**, will again be active from Ogasawara (AS-031) between May 2 – 14, 2010. Look for him to be QRV 80-10m on CW, SSB & RTTY.

He will update twitter: <http://twitter.com/jd1bmh> and his JD1BMH website.

Other May DX

Ron, **DL5JAG** will be on holiday in the Maldives between May 8 – 23, signing **8Q7SR**.

Vladimir, **S79LR**, will be active from the Seychelles:

May 1 to 7 — Desroches, AF-033.

May 8 to 10 — Mahe, AF-024.

Kaz, **ZL7J**, plans to arrive in Chatham Island on April 27, leaving May 4, operating SSB and CW, on 1.9MHz-28MHz.

Tomas, **VK2CCC**, will be active as **VK9L** from Lord Howe Island May 24th to 31st. It’s unlikely he will have an amp. His focus is on 160 and 80 meters. He will be QRV in his spare time. QSL via On Line QSL Request System (www.grz.lt/ly1df), direct or buro via **VK2CCC**, or LOTW.

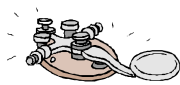



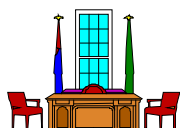



K8YTO

May/June - 100 Most Wanted Activity as of April 23 — *End Date Order*

2009 #	Entity	Station	QRV	Ending	Web site	LP Date
3	MARION ISLAND	ZS8M	?	2011	www.zs8m.com	May-08
71	BHUTAN	A52SW	Apr 23	May 01		
94	OGASAWARA	JD1BLY (AS-031)	May 02	May 07	www.ji5rpt.com/jd1/	Jan-10
94	OGASAWARA	JD1BMH	May 02	May 14	http://sapphire.es.tohoku.ac.jp/jd1bmh/index.html	Jan-10
29	CENTRAL KIRIBATI	T31X	May 22	Jun 01	www.uz1hz.com/pacificodysey.html	Nov-08
61	WESTERN KIRIBATI	T30XG or T30/T32XG	Jun 03	Jun 06		Nov-08
51	PALESTINE	E4X	May 28	Jun 06	www.dxfriends.com/e4x/	
58	TOKELAU	ZK3X	Jun 02	Jun 06	www.uz1hz.com/pacificodysey.html	Apr-10
89	CHAD	TT8PK	NOW	Jun 10		
86	SOUTH SHETLAND	DT8A (AN-010)	NOW	Nov 30		

May 2010

SEMDXA Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																													
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2	3  WIAW Qalifying Run	4	5	6	7	8 50 MHz Sprint A Volta RTTY Test CQ-M DX Test FISTS Test NV QSO Party																																																																																													
9  Mother's Day	10	11	12  K9JM Qualifying Run	13	14 Dayton Hamven- tion Starts  New Moon	15 Armed Forces Test EU PSK Test King of Spain Test Work Britain 160-40 M SSB																																																																																													
16	17  Victoria Day	18	19	20	21  SEMDXA Meet- ing & WIAW Run	22 Baltic 80 M Test																																																																																													
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30 QRP ARCI Sprint	31  Memorial Day MI QRP Test	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> April <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> June <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			13	14	15	16	17	18	19			20	21	22	23	24	25	26			27	28	29	30					
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