



Long Path



Volume 32 Issue 4

SEMDXA NEWSLETTER

January 2015



President's Report

Happy New Year to everyone. I am up-north enjoying the DX and the snow. We have both the K1N Navassa Island DXpedition and the EP6T Iran DXpedition coming up this month. We received a nice thank you letter from the Navassa group for our contribution to the expedition. I will put it up on the big screen at the January meeting. Their web sight is navassadx.com. 1A0C has been on this week through the 3rd of January.

Have a great New Years celebration and I hope to see you at the next meeting.

73 Dave K8ESQ

Meeting Presentation

Friday January 9, 2015
Larry K8UT Amateur Radio
applications of the Raspberry
PI

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm.

Brad N8SNM presented the treasures report and it was accepted by the membership. As of October 31, there was \$1646.28 in the checking and \$224.12 in the pay-pal account.

The October 2014 meeting minutes were approved by the membership. There was no Vice President report.

Old Business:

The SEMDXA most wanted DX entities list is complete. Thirty seven members inputted their data. Thanks for your participation. This is the list that determines our donation to a particular DXpedition. See the Longpath for the Top 25 which really may be the top 30 because of ties.

New Business:

Three requests were received for DXpedition donations.

Eritrea, Navassa and EP6T. Since all three were on the SEMDXA top 25 wanted list, the club will donate the usual \$75 per expedition. A suggestion to pass the hat was made to add donation funds for EP6 and Navassa KP1. \$318 was collected to be split between the two expeditions.. A motion was made and seconded that the club add additional funds above the \$75 per expedition to allow the SEMDXA donation to equal \$250 for the two expeditions. This allows the SEMDXA logo to be displayed on the DXpedition website or QSL card. There will be a pass the hat for Eritrea

at the January 2015 SEMDXA meeting.

Stan AC8W reports the ARRL contest advisory committee is looking for comments to a proposal to post the logs of contesting stations. A discussion was held amongst those present and determined that the members really didn't care if logs were published or not.

There is no December meeting. Remember the SEMDXA Holiday Luncheon will be December 16th, 11:30 AM at Zukey Lake Tavern. Contact Rick NE8Z to RSVP. Thanks Rick for setting up this fine event.

Don't forget to contact your state representatives/ senators to support the Michigan PRB1 initiative. See the

SEMDXA OFFICERS

President: Dave De Rain, **K8ESQ**

Vice-president: Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

Treasurer: Brad Nowak, **N8SNM**

Secretary: Lee Dziekan, **N8LJ**

Program Director: Gerry Treas, **K8GT**

Steve Culp, **K8QKY**

Directors: Ted, **K8NA**, Bob, **K8VFW**, and Lee, **N8LJ**

Club Appointees:

Web Site Editor: Larry Gauthier, **K8UT**

LP Publisher: Linda Metz, **KC8PKY**

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**

Program

The phenomenal presentation of the evening was the 2014 DXpedition to Tonga and Fiji by SEMDXA's own N8LJ, AC8W, K8AQM, and KG8CO.

Meeting adjourned 8:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee
N8LJ

Equipment for Sale

Rec'd from K8NA Ted, former SEMDXA member Ron, WD8SBE is getting out of ham radio due to age & health. His contact info: email: RPHerr@wideopenwest.com phone: 586-751-6706

HEATHKIT SB 220 1,000 AMP SKW LINEAR AMP.

SWAN ELECTRONICS 2,000 WATT METER-

KENWOOD TS-830 S JUST RE-TUBED WITH ARMY TUBES-SOLID 100 WATT OUTPUT-HF TRANSCEIVER

KENWOODVFO-240 REMOTE-

HFJ GRAND MASTER KEYER-

MEMORY KEYER MODEL MFJ -482-

KENWOOD SP- 820 SPEAKER-

CDE TRANSMIT/RECEIVER-

DIRECTIONAL CONTROL FOR ANTENNA-

KENWOOD 2 METER ALL MODE TRANCEIVER TR 9,000-

KENWOOD SYSTEM BASE BO 9-

KENWOOD PATCH CONTROLER PC-1-

KENWOODWOOD MODEL MC-SO MICROPHONE-

40' AIRCRAFT ALUMINUM TOWER/WITH STAINLESS BOLTS AND NUTS-TOWER IS DOWN AND READY TO GO---

PLUS MORE TO BE HAD-

REASONABLE PRICING ON ALL OR BY PIECE- CONTACT RON AT 586-751-6706

**1A0C
Sov. Military Order of
Malta Dec 28—Jan 6**

1A0C, Sovereign Military Order of Malta (SMOM) A ten member team will be operating between December 28th and January 6th (2015). Operations will be concentrated on the HF bands, 160-6 meters.

Modes CW, SSB and RTTY, with at least three stations on the air.

QSL via **IZ7KHR** [following the instruction on their Web page]. An online log and OQRS will be available on ClubLog. See:

<http://www.1A0C.com>

Suggested frequencies follow:

	CW	SSB	RTTY
10	28024	28495	28080
12	24894	24945	24921
15	21024	21295	21080
17	18074	18145	18100
20	14024	14295	14080
30	10104		10140
40	7004	7065/7170	7040
80	3524	3780	
160	1824	1845	

DX Activity

There are three notable DXpeditions coming up: Iran (Rockall DX Group), Navassa, Eritrea (Japanese, FGC Radio Team)

EP6T, Iran

Jan 16 to Jan 27. Ten man team. Don't miss this one! They will have 5 K3's and 5 amps. See details at:

www.Rockall.be

K1N, Navassa

Jan 29 to Feb 16 – see articles in this issue.

E3A, Eritrea

March 1 to March 31. This is the DXpedition that Zorro, **JH1AJT**, indicated would occur in the near future after his operation as E30FB in September.

K8YTO

K1N Navassa

Navassa will be activated by a 15 man team from January 29 to February 16. There will be eight K3 operating stations. Four will have 500 watt amps, and a fifth a 1kw amp. Antennas include verticals on 160m thru 40m, plus five SteppIR beams, and a custom 6m beam.

As of December 28 the band plan and frequencies were not available. See the web site for updated information.

December 20 Press Release (Edited):

The cost of the **K1N** operation is very high and the time to raise the money needed to fully fund the project is exceptionally short. Inherent risks of a water landing on Navassa have dictated using a helicopter to transport men and materials to avoid the risk of scaling the 5-10 meter high cliffs during the period of rough seas (January - February).

The 15 operators have collectively contributed \$157,500, roughly half of what it will cost. DX Foundations, Radio Clubs, and Individuals have been exceptionally generous in their financial support of **K1N**. But the **K1N** Team still needs to raise a significant amount of additional money BEFORE the operation commences..... to ensure payment for the extraordinary transportation costs.

This week the team paid the first half of the nearly \$200,000 helicopter transportation contract. The second half is due to be paid February 10th. By the end of this month (December), in order to progress with the operation, we must pay the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service \$95,000 - \$97,000 for the transportation of the Law Enforcement team who must accompany us.

Bob, **N200**, is our chief pilot. Feed-



2015 team won't risk this landing...Members of the 1993 DXpedition to Navassa Island climbing up the wire-rope ladder at Lulu Bay. Photo—Don Roland, **VE1AOE**

back given to the team at least daily. We have a very special pilot, Brandon **KF5NYQ**, age 11. He is one of the youngest hams ever to have achieved DXCC!!! Brandon will be collecting feedback from young hams on our website:

www.navassadx.com

We are now on FACEBOOK and TWITTER!

- ◆ Facebook page: Navassa 2015 **K1N** to follow us!
- ◆ Twitter: Search for **@navassa2015**. Then follow **K1N**.

Team co-leader, Glenn, **W0GJ**, was interviewed by DokuFunk Radio earlier this week. You can hear the entire interview (14 minutes) at:

www.dokufunk.org/navassa-e

DokuFunk has well documented history of amateur operations from Navassa.

K8YTO



Navassa and Area of Operation (Green)

USGS Navassa Island: A Photographic Tour (1998 - 1999)

"Galapagos of the Caribbean"

US Geological Survey - The Expedition

Navassa is an uninhabited, 2 square mile island in the Caribbean Sea between Haiti and Jamaica administered by the U.S. Department of Interior. The USGS participated in two science expeditions to Navassa organized by the Center for Marine Conservation. The first team of 8 scientists spent July 24 to August 5, 1998 on Navassa. The second expedition occurred between April 29 and May 12, 1999 and was supported by a vessel, film crew and explorers from the Quest, an Australian adventure group and film production enterprise.

The team conducted an inventory of natural resources of the island for the Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs. Preliminary results of the inventories have increased the number of terrestrial species known to the island from 150 to more than 650. On the last day of the first trip, the group found a single living specimen of the palm tree *Pseudopheonix sargentii saonae* var. *navassana*. Further exploration during the second trip proved the specimen to be the last living example of this endemic palm, which had been common on the island as late as 1928.

National Wildlife Refuge Status

The information collected during these expeditions was instrumental in the decision in 1999 to make Navassa a National Wildlife Refuge, under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The refuge was established to preserve and protect the coral reef ecosystems and the marine environment, to restore and enhance native wildlife and plants, and to provide opportunities for wildlife research. This refuge is closed to the public.

Explore Navassa - Geology

A Former Coral Atoll

Ancient coral reef sediments that have been raised above sea level by vertical movements of the earth's crust underlie Navassa. Navassa may have formed as a small coral atoll, but at the close of the Miocene Period about 5 million years ago, these reefs began to emerge. Emergence resulted in the alteration of calcium carbonate sediments (aragonite) to calcium-magnesium carbonate rock (dolomite), the formation of a terrace around the island, and the beginnings of chemical weathering and cave formation. About two million years ago phosphate-rich sediment was deposited on the island, perhaps guano that was greatly altered to form the mineral phosphate deposit now found on the surface. The oolitic phosphate forms a thin veneer overlying and filling karst holes in the dolomite.



Explore Navassa - History

Phosphorite Mining, Caribbean Beacon

In 1857, the phosphorite on Navassa was mistaken for guano by a U.S. sea captain who laid claim to the island under the Guano Island Act passed by the U.S. Congress in 1855. Between 1865 and 1898 almost a million tons of the phosphorite were strip-mined from the island and shipped to Baltimore by the Navassa Phosphate Co. The island was abandoned during the Spanish American War, but by that time it was firmly established as US territory.

The opening of the Panama Canal put Navassa in the middle of the traffic lanes between the Atlantic and Caribbean, and the Coast Guard built a lighthouse on the island in 1917. Global Positioning Systems eliminated the need for the lighthouse by 1996, and the Coast Guard turned Navassa over to U.S. Department of Interior on January 16, 1997.

Explore Navassa - Biology

Isolated Development

The biological diversity of the island and the fact that Navassa is U.S. territory owe much to the geology of the island. The limestone island is an uplifted atoll in the range of 5 million years old, giving rise to a biota that has been isolated long enough have evolved independently of the biota on surrounding land masses. 10-30m cliffs surround Navassa, making it difficult for organisms to reach the island's high terraces. Surrounding waters are 500 m deep, eliminating the possibility of land connections to larger islands during Pleistocene sea-level lowstands.



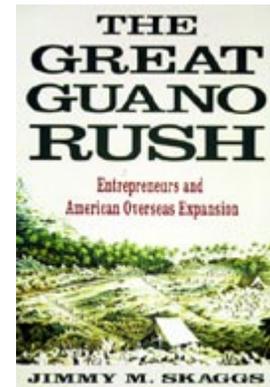
sea fans & coral

Seven island species are currently recognized as endemic include land snails, lizards, vascular plants, and possibly round dove. Two endemic species, an iguana and curly lizard found on the island during the last century, could be located and may be extinct. Common on the island as of 1928, only one specimen of the palm tree *Pseudo-*

phoenix sargentii saonae var. *navassana* remains.

Source: <http://coastal.er.usgs.gov/navassa/>

K8YTO



history of the "Guano Rush"



Navassa's last *pseudo-phoenix*

Future DXpeditions

DX0, SPRATY ISLANDS

April 2015 - Members of the Mabuhay DX Group (made up of Filipino- American-Canadian and Filipino DXers/Contests) will activate **Pag Asa Island (AS-051, Kalayaan Island Group)** as **DX0P**.

Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via WJ1P. Visit their Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/DX0P2015>

3Y/B, BOUVET ISLAND (Update From UN7PCZ)

Late 2015 - A team of 12 operators are planning to set up 6 complete stations for a 2 week operation. Preliminary window is between December 17th, 2015, and January 10th, 2016.

VP8/SG & VP8/SS, SOUTH GEORGIA ISLAND AND SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS

Press Release #1, by Paul Ewing, N6PSE [edited]

January 2016 - The Intrepid-DX Group, led by Paul Ewing-N6PSE and David Collingham-K3LP, is pleased to announce our next Dxpediton. In January 2016, a multi-national team of fourteen operators will converge in Stanley, the Falkland Islands, and start a 34 day voyage aboard the R/V Braveheart to the #4 most wanted DXCC, South Sandwich Island and the #9 most wanted DXCC, South Georgia Island.

PALMYRA ISLAND - 2016

Per OPDX, ORZ DX reports Laurie Moore, Director of Palmyra Program, stated:

"Working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service we have developed a plan to accommodate these requests and are able to offer a maximum of two such trips in Winter 2016. Our goal is to facilitate access to The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) preserve on Cooper Island at Palmyra Atoll in a manner that is fair, and with minimal impact to the preserve and station operations."

Available time slots are January 11-26th, 2016 (includes set-up, transmit, and tear down), and February 1-16th, 2016 (includes set-up, transmit, and tear down).

The TNC will allow up to 12 amateur radio operators. TNC will make arrangements for travel to/from Palmyra via chartered jet service. TNC will provide access to double occupancy cabins with three prepared meals and snacks daily, shower house and toilet block room/board/electrical power, fuel and occasional recreational activity, such as hikes to observe historical sites or wildlife. Total estimated costs 176,000 USD.

K8YTO

OPDX is the main source for DX Articles.
K8YTO

JA8BMK ASIAN AND AFRICAN TOUR Continues

Toshi, **JA8BMK**, plans to be active over the next month and into the new year. Activity will be focused mainly on the lower bands (160-80m) with better receive antennas and locations. His tentative schedule is as follows:

January 10-25th (2015) - Antananarivo, Madagascar; callsign **5R8DX**; operators Toshi, **JA8BMK** and Ken/**JN1THL**; focusing on the low bands.

February 5-25th (2015) - Vientiane, Laos; callsign; from a new QTH with lower noise and wider area and with RX antennas.

March 1-31st (2015) - Nha Trang, Vietnam; callsign **XV7BM**; with improved RX antennas.

QSL all callsigns via **JA8BMK**.

K8YTO

Happy
New Year to All
AND
GOOD DX!

**Jan/Feb - 100 Most Wanted Activity
as of Dec 23 - In QRV Date Order—By K8YTO**

QRV	End	Prefix	Call	Entity	QSL Mgr	Top 100	LP Date
						2013	
NOW	02 Jan	XW	XW4XR	LAOS	E21EIC	68	
NOW	02 Jan	JD1/O	JD1BON	OGASAWARA	JA1UII	85	01-Jan-10
NOW	02 Jan	JD1/O	JD1BOI	OGASAWARA	J11LET	85	01-Jan-10
NOW	04 Jan	T8	T8CW	PALAU	JH0IXE	99	
NOW	10 Jan	JD1/O	JD1BMH	OGASAWARA	JG7PSJ	85	01-Jan-10
NOW	31 Mar	VP8/H	CV0A	SOUTH SHETLAND	CX2ABC	91	
NOW	30 Aug	ZD9	ZD9A (AF-030)	TRISTAN DE CUNHA	ZS1LS	50	01-Nov-10
05 Jan	11 Jan	FO/A	TX5W	AUSTRAL	KE8G	48	
07 Jan	12 Jan	KH8	AH0CO/KH8	AMERICAN SAMOA	JA0JHQ	65	01-Nov-11
07 Jan	15 Jan	T8	T88KC	PALAU	JA6KCC	99	
07 Jan	15 Jan	T8	T88HK (160 m)	PALAU	JE6DND	99	
07 Jan	15 Jan	T8	T88HS	PALAU	JA6KYU	99	
07 Jan	15 Jan	T8	T88RR	PALAU	JA6UBY	99	
07 Jan	15 Jan	T8	T88SM	PALAU	JA6EGL	99	
15 Jan	23 Jan	XW	XW4XR	LAOS	E21EIC	68	
16 Jan	27 Jan	EP	EP6T (AS-166)	IRAN	M0URX	30	
17 Jan	12 Feb	S7	S79AC	SEYCHELLES	OE4AAC	98	
29 Jan	16 Feb	KP1	K1N	NAVASSA	N2OO	2	01-Jan-15
05 Feb	25 Feb	XW	XW8DX	LAOS	JA8BMK	68	
16 Feb	23 Feb	V6	V63MJ	MICRONESIA	W5MJ	77	
16 Feb	23 Feb	TI9	TI9/3Z9DX	COCOS ISLAND	3Z9DX	46	
21 Feb	22 Feb	3W	3W3B	VIETNAM	E21EIC	83	
24 Feb	04 Mar	CE0/Z	by F6KOP team	JUAN FERNANDEZ ISL.		45	01-Nov-13
01 Mar	31 Mar	3W	XV7BM	VIETNAM	JA8BMK	83	
01 Mar	31 Mar	E3	E3A	ERITREA		15	
05 Mar	12 Mar	T8	T88HZ	PALAU		99	

LP Date is date of Long Path article about the Country/Entity - Red Means Check Call Sign in Log Prefix Table

Jan/Feb Other DX - By K8YTO

QRV	End	Prefix	Call	ENTITY	QSL Mgr
NOW	31 Dec	CE9	VP8ROT & Jan 8 - 11	Antarctica (KC4)	GM0HCQ
NOW	03 Jan	CE9	by RV3ARY	Antarctica (KC4)	
NOW	08 Jan	D4	D44TWO	Cape Verde	M00XO
NOW	31 Jan	CE9	D8A	Antarctica (KC4)	HL2FDW
NOW	01 Feb	CE9	RI1ANC	Antarctica (KC4)	RN1ON
NOW	04 Feb	CE9	IA/IZ2QEJ	Antarctica (KC4)	IZ2QEJ
NOW	28 Feb	JW	JW/UA3IPL	Svalbard	RW6HS
NOW	28 Feb	CE9	DP1POL	Antarctica (KC4)	DL1ZBO
NOW	31 Mar	CE9	RI1ANR	Antarctica (KC4)	RK1PWA
NOW	01 Apr	JW	JW9JKA	Svalbard	LA9JKA
NOW	01 Jun	5H	5H6JG	Tanzania	NOXDW
NOW	01 Jun	TJ	TJ3TS	Cameroon	PA-3249
01 Jan	31 Dec	CE9	RI1ANZ (THRU 2015)	Antarctica (KC4)	RN1ON
06 Jan	13 Jan	V5	V5/G3RWF	Namibia	G3RWF
09 Jan	16 Jan	VU	8T5MQT (AS-153)	India	VU2NRO
10 Jan	05 Feb	6W	6W7SK	Senegal	F6BLP
16 Jan	26 Jan	C5	C5X	The Gambia	M00XO
09 Feb	20 Feb	V5	V5/DC8QT	Namibia	
09 Feb	20 Feb	V5	V5/DD8ZX	Namibia	
09 Feb	20 Feb	V5	V5/DJ9KM	Namibia	
14 Feb	15 Feb	V5	V55V	Namibia	DJ8VC
15 Feb	24 Feb	FO/F	FO/K8PGJ	French Poly	K8PGJ
16 Feb	08 Mar	5Z	5Z4/DF3FS	Kenya	DF3FS
16 Feb	08 Mar	5Z	5Z4/DL9OLI	Kenya	DF3FS
18 Feb	25 Feb	JW	JW/DL2JRM	Svalbard	DL2JRM
26 Feb	10 Mar	FP	FP/KV1J	St. Pierre & Miquelon	KV1J
01 Mar	31 Mar	9Q	9Q0HQ	Zaire	
11 Mar	01 Apr	7Q	7QAA	Malawi	