Volume 34 Issue 2 SEMDXA NEWSLETTER February 2024



## PRES Sez

Hi all,

What is your favorite mode to operate when getting a new country? At this point in my Ham Radio life, I am on FT8. The main reason is I'm still working (2 years at the most then I will join the rest of you in retirement) and while working, I can't really operate SSB. It takes too much time away from my day job. So as a comprise, I operate FT8 since I have my station setup in front of me and a monitor off to the side with FT8 running. I use a program called mouse without boards that will support up to 4 different computers/monitors. What is nice about using this program is when I see a new country or a country on a new band, I just slide my mouse to that screen and transmit. It is seamless and I don't have to grab a different mouse and keyboard. And my work doesn't know I'm running my radio! It's a win/win. In essence I get paid to play radio! What's not to like about that!

The weather seems to be generous right now with a warmer January. This is a good time to go check your antennas to see how they are doing. I had to tighten up my dipole and get the ladder line unstuck from my roof.

I have made progress on countries/entities that I have made contact with. Last reported I was at 269 contacts to different countries/entities. 234 are confirmed. I am now at 271 with 235 confirmed. Even more progress!! I need to send a few cards out or get on Club Log and get some of these rarer entities confirmed!

And the Lions didn't win the Championship nor get to the Super Bowl...there is always next year like we have said since 1958!

The Prez - 73's

**NEXT Meeting:** 

#### **In-Person**

February 14th, 2024 at 7 PM

Fork n' Pint in Waterford

**Program** 

# **TBA**

Check the SEMDXA website for details

#### **SEMDXA OFFICERS**

President: Fred Goeckel, KD8ZYD Vice-president: Pete Gladysz, K8PGJ Treasurer: Brad Nowak, N8SNM Secretary: Chet Latawiec, VE3CFK Program Director: Ted Pauck, K8NA and Steve Culp, K8QKY

Directors: Doug N8VY and Bob K8RGM

**Club Appointees:** 

Web Site Editor: Doug Basberg, N8VY LP Publisher: Chet Latawiec, VE3CFK

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 CO Checker: Al Bailey, K8SIX

SEMDXA Web Site: www.semdxa.org

### **Meeting Minutes**

January 2024

The January SEMDXA meeting was chaired by our president Fred, KD8ZYD. The meeting started at 7:00 PM. There were 12 in attendance and 4 zoomed.

Acceptance of meeting minutes for the November meeting as presented in the December issue of The Long Path was requested by Chet, VE3CFK. With no comments or corrections tabled, acceptance was motioned by Fred KD8ZYD and seconded by Fred, W1SKU. Accepted by all.

Treasurers report was presented by Brad, N8SNM. Brad indicated that the club dues are due. Acceptance of the treasurers report was motioned by Dave, K8ESQ and 2nded by Doug, N8VY. Accepted by all. Brad also asked for forgiveness as he spent \$26.43 and \$14.83 of SEMDXAs funds to purchase computer cables for running the ZOOM meetings. Forgiveness was motioned by Fred, KD8ZYD ad seconded by Al, K8SIX. All present gave their forgiveness.

#### New Business:

Brad, N8SNM tabled the question "Which DXpedition would you like SEMDXA to sponsor. Doesn't have to be in the top 25. If you need em, we can support them".

Someone tabled the question as to whether the SEMDXA meeting can be moved to the 3rd Wednesday of the month, as there are members that would like to attend, but are double booked for the 2nd of the month. Your secretary did not record who was going to follow-up with the Fork n' Pint.

Our guest speaker for the evening was Adrian KO8SCA who talked about his recent Swains Island, W8S DXpedition.

Motion to adjourn was made by Tim, K8NWD and seconded by Chet, VE3CFK. Meeting closed at 8:28.

#### **ZOOM MEETINGS**

In person meetings have resumed. We are getting better at presenting ZOOM meetings. Really hope you can join us in person, but if you can't, please join our ZOOM meeting.

For those not familiar with ZOOM, please refer to the 2020 October or November issues of The Long Path which are accessible online on the SEMDXA Website for details on how to setup your computer for a ZOOM meeting.

Use the one step process and just click on the link below to join upcoming meetings.

 $\frac{https://umich.zoom.us/j/91352970493?pwd=N0t3N1RpUFZj}{VGQzZHZwTnU0bHpuUT09}$ 

#### Hamfests

2/17/24 - Livonia ARC, Livonia MI

3/09/24 - Michigan Crossroads Hamfest & Radio Swap, Kalamazoo, MI

#### Pete K8PGJ

Pete will be traveling to PJ2T for the ARRL DX SSB Contest February 27 – March 5 and will be PJ2/K8PGJ prior to the Contest.

Sitting 9th from the Caymans during NAQP SSB Contest

Z81Z - S. Sudan

Look for Ken, K4ZW to be active again from Juba, South Sudan as Z81Z during February 4-7, 2024. QRV on HF bands.

### KH0 - Saipan



Toshi, JH6HZH will be active from the village of Garapan, Saipan island, Northern Mariana islands as KH0/W6HZH during April 24 to May 1, 2024. QRV on 160-6m; CW, SSB & FT8.

### AT8 - Bengal Is's

In mid-February 2024, members of the Bengal Amateur Radio Society (BARS) plan to activate several islands in the IOTA AS-153 group. Islands include:

Ghoramara

Agnimari Char

Suparbhanga

Lothian

**Jambudwip** 

New Bulcherry

The team, comprised of 8 to 10 operators, will travel to each island and will use a special callsign on behalf of our club, most likely AT8BRS. along with the special callsign (e.g., AT8BRS/VU3XCR). will



Established in 1967, the CQ DX Hall of Fame honours those amateurs who have made major contributions to DXing and DXpeditioning; both on-air and off-air accomplishments and activities.

Nominations should be sent by 1 March to Rich Moseson, W2VU (cqw2vu@gmail.com). Make sure to put DX Hall of Fame in the subject line.

Inductees will be announced in May and the induction ceremony, with help from the International DX Association, will be held at the Dayton DX Dinner.

### OX - Greenland



Dave OX5DM, Mikkel OK7AKT and Alex OX7AM will be active from Kangerlussuaq, Greenland during February 13-22, 2024.

#### YJ - Vanuatu

JH3QFL and JH3VAA will be on the air as YJ0AA and YJ0MN February 4-11, FT8 on HF. They will also get on the "Green Cube" satellite.

#### **W9DXCC 2024**

Mark your calendar as the W9DXCC convention will take place at the Marriot in Naperville, Illinois on September 13-14. This year's event will include Contest-University and DX-U on Friday September 13. The complete program details "will follow later in the year". <a href="https://w9dxcc.com">https://w9dxcc.com</a>

#### Friedrichshafen

IOTA-60 Anniversary Dinner in Friedrichshafen (June 28-30, 2024) by VE3LYC and the IOTA Team.

This year we celebrate 60 years since the founding of our wonderful programme. In recognition of this milestone, the upcoming Ham Radio 2024 meeting in Friedrichshafen (FHN), scheduled to take place between June 28 and 30, will have as moto: "60 Years of Islands on the Air: Technology Meets Adventure!" (see more at https://www.hamradio-friedrichshafen.com/)

Apart from having a booth there, we intend to organize an IOTA Forum on Saturday morning, June 29, as well as other activities, which will be announced on this website later on. We also like to use this opportunity to call for an anniversary dinner at one of the local restaurants. Please let us know at info@into-world.org, as soon as possible, if you are interested to participate to this special get-together event, number of seats required, and if you have a preference for a specific evening during the meeting. We will compile the results of this quick survey to book an appropriate venue.

### 702WX - Yemen



A new generator has arrived for continued 7O2WX operations. A reminder that Vlad is QRV until February 12th.

Vlad had to move his radio and amplifier from the shack tent to a stone shelter because the heat is so high (40c). The amp cuts out at 45c. Antennas remain the same.

### VK0AI - Antarctica



VK0AI will go QRT from Casey, Antarctica during early March '24 when Norbert returns home to Australia from Wilkins ice runway

Previously active in 2018-2019 from Macquarie Island as VK0AI, operator Norbert VK5MQ is now QRV from Casey Station when time permits. He has been there since mid-November, and writes that the Antarctic summer season at Casey station is expected to be very busy so it's not known how much time will be available for ham operations. Today, he was briefly active on 20m FT8 which was the main mode he used from Macquarie. QSL via VK5MQ.

#### **CLUBLOG**

### **Most wanted - Top 25**

1	P5	DPRK (NORTH KOREA)			
2	BS7H	SCARBOROUGH REEF			
3	CE0X	SAN FELIX ISLANDS			
4	BV9P	PRATAS ISLAND			
5	KH7K	KURE ISLAND			
6	KH3	JOHNSTON ISLAND			
7	FT/G	GLORIOSO ISLAND			
8	3Y/P	PETER 1 ISLAND			
9	FT5/X	KERGUELEN ISLAND			
10	YV0	AVES ISLAND			
11	3Y/B	BOUVET ISLAND			
12	ZS8	PRINCE EDWARD & MARION			
13	KH4	MIDWAY ISLAND			
14	VK0M	MACQUARIE ISLAND			
15	PY0S	SAINT PETER AND PAUL ROCKS			
16	PY0T	TRINDADE & MARTIM VAZ			
17	KP5	DESECHEO ISLAND			
18	VP8S	SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS			
19	KH5	PALMYRA & JARVIS ISLANDS			
20	ZL9	NEW ZEALAND SUBANTARCTIC			
21	FK/C	CHESTERFIELD ISLANDS			
22	VK0H	HEARD ISLAND			
23	EZ	TURKMENISTAN			
24	FT/T	TROMELIN ISLAND			
25	YK	SYRIA			

### YJ0 - Vanuatu

YJ0VV DXpedition for October 16-30th, 2024 is looking for team members.

Contact information:

Van Herridge, N4VGE / YJ0VV

Team Leader

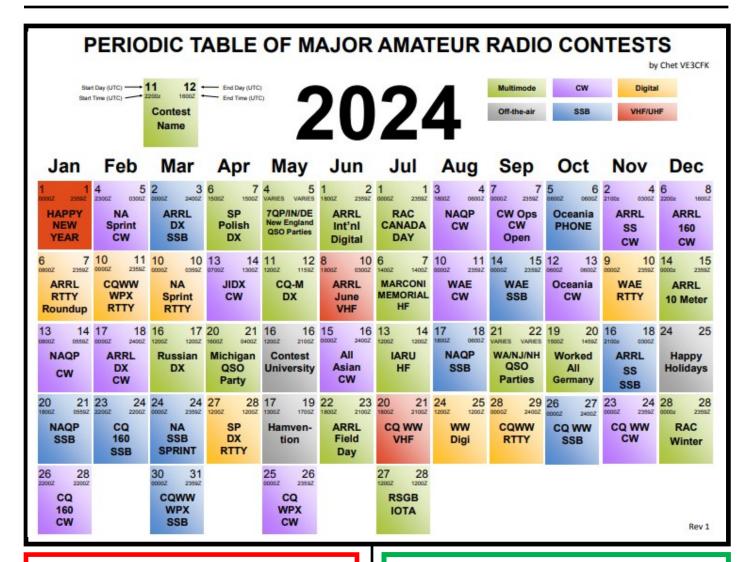
843-303-1885

vanherridge@gmail.com

## DX IS!

One of the local QRPers came by last week, troubled and anxious. "It's that I figure I'm over the hill", this QRPer explained. "I'm around the bend for sure. I am sore and troubled and these wounds of mine...these spiritual wounds...are grievous burdens. I suspect that I have had it." We nodded in sympathy for we know those dark watches of the night when a DXer must wrestle with his fears...that he will miss one. "And just what is the problem?" we asked. "Have you turned fifty? Or something like that?" The QRPer jumped to his feet and glared at us. "I thought that you! You of all people would understand", he exclaimed. "That you would know what it is to work your 300th country and there is little left for you. You!!...", he said and away he went. We did not call after him for we know the wounds of the spirit and that dreaded 300th country sticker has felled more than one noble DXer. Worse than Norman's Woe!





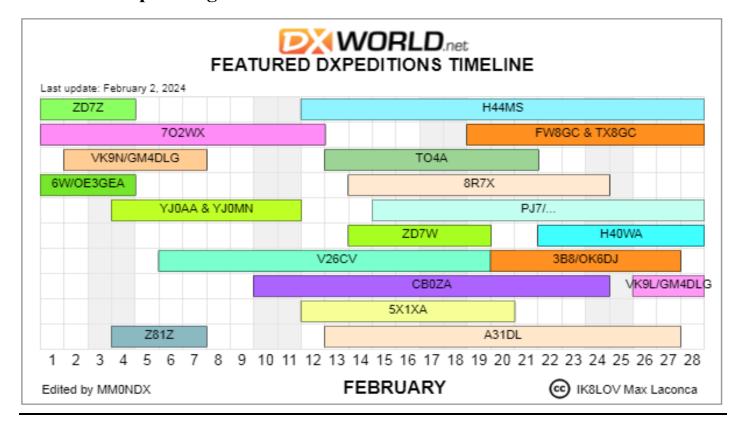
## A3 - Tonga

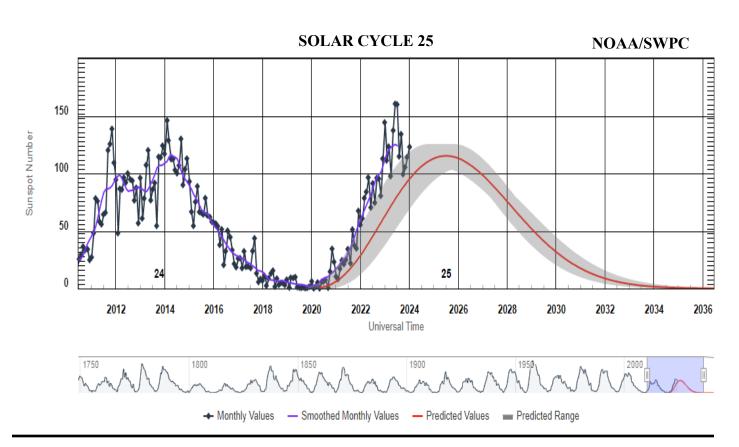
From Bernie's "The Daily DX" ... K7AR, Al Rovner, gives us an update on his and W7YAQ's, Bob's, Tonga expedition. They have been issued the callsign A31DL and will be QRV from about February 15-27. Bob says, "about" the two veteran Pacific DXpeditioners "don't know exactly when [they] will get the equipment setup". While there they plan to operate in the ARRL DX CW Contest. Al says "Tonga will be well represented in February" as YT1AD and his group will also be active. They will be located about a mile from the A31DL QTH.

Thank you to Bernie, W3UR, The Daily DX, The Weekly DX, ARRL and DX World, NG3K, CLUBLOG, Dales Tales and CQ magazine for their contributions

### **DUES** are **DUE**

#### **Credit to DX World**





#### I came across this interesting 160M article. Enjoy! de Chet VE3CFK



17. ARGANGUR

1. TÖLUBI. 1982

JÚNÍ

#### ERT PÚ QRV Á 160 METRUM?

Ef ekki, þá er rétti tíminn að bæta úr því núna, í tæka tíð fyrir fjórðu TF útileikana um verzlunarmannahelgina nú í sumar. 160 metra bandið gefur nýja og lítt kannaða möguleika til sambanda um langar vegalengdir innanlands. Útileikarnir eru kjörið tækifæri til að kanna útbreiðsluna milli staða, sem radíóamatörar heimsækja ekki á hverjum degi. Hin langa bylgjulengd gerir það að verkum, að jarð-bylgjan dregur lengra en á nokkru öðru amatörbandi. Möguleikar á áreiðanlegu sambandi eru fyrir hendi þar sem önnur bönd kunna að vera ónothæf. Áhugavert væri t.d. með hliðsjón af suðurlandsskjálftanum, að athuga hve langt jarðbylgjan dregur frá Reykjavík og um suðurland. Hvernig væri að þú legðir þitt af mörkum með batttöku í útileikunum?

A sl. hausti vissu menn, að til stæði að amatörar fengju 160 metrana, en ekki hvenær hin formlega tilkynning yrði birt. Það var ekki fyrr en farið var að glugga í nýbirt Stjórnartíðindi, að menn uppgötvuðu, að samgönguráðherra hafði undirritað eftirfarandi reglur þarum einum manuði aður:

Tíðni stöðvanna, útgeislun og afl eru samkvæmt eftirfarandi töflu:

	Nýliðal. A-ley	fi B-leyfi	C-leyfi
1830 1850 kHz	1 1 1	A1, A3	A1, A3
	A1, F1	A3A, A3H, A3J, F1F3	A3A, A3H, A3J, F1F3

Útsendingar i þessu tiðnisviði skulu fyrst um sinn vera í formi tilraunasendinga og må rakstraumsaft inn å útgangsstig ekki fara fram úr 50 W.

Hvaða tæki og hvaða loftnet er spurning, sem allir velta fyrir sér, hvort sem menn nota bandið nú þegar, eða ráðgera það á næstunni. Sum heimilistæki(þau sem kallast transceiverar) hafa bandið nú þegar og er vandinn þá ekki mikill, nema ef til vill sá að fá afl út úr tækinu á löglegu inngangsafli. Þurft getur að breyta forspennu á útgangsstiginu til að nýtnin sé ofan við núllið. Þetta er allt í lagi á CW, en getur komið niður á mótun og bandbreidd á SSB. Ýmsir freistandi smíðamöguleikar eru fyrir hendi og hafa birzt góðar hugmyndir í blöðum t.d. Practical Wireless auk þess, sem borið hefur á góma í viðræðum anatöra á meðal. Viðraðanleikinn ætti að vera góður sökum lágrar tíðni.

Við fastastöðvar hýtur loftnetið í flestum tilvikum að vera einhvers-konar langur vír. Jarðbylgjan er lóðrétt póluð og gagnstætt útbreidd-um misskilningi geislar hún mest út til endanna á vírnum. Það stafar af nálægt loftnetsins við jörð. Lárétt pólaða bylgjan geislar hins-vegar til hliðanna, en hún er betur fallin sem háloftabylgja. Nokkur góð ráð er að finna í grein TF3DX inni í blaðinu.

## Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

Start	<u>End</u>	DXCC	<u>Call</u>	QSL	Reported	
Date	<u>Date</u>	<u>Entity</u>	<u></u>	via	by	
2024						
Jan	uary					
2024 Jan16	2024 Feb04	St Helena	ZD7Z [spots]	LoTW	DXW.Net 20231201	
2024 Jan19	2024 Feb02	Guadeloupe	FG [spots]	LoTW	TDDX 20240119	
2024 Jan20	2024 Feb10	Morocco	CN2DX [spots]	EA5GL	TDDX 20240102	
2024 Jan24	2024 Feb06	Maldives	8Q7WR [spots]	See Info	TDDX 20231213	
2024 Jan25	2024 Feb12	Yemen	702WX [spots]	IZ8CCW	DXW.Net 20231111	
2024 Jan27	2024 Feb03	Guatemala	TG7 [spots]	N3PEM Direct	TDDX 20240126	
2024 Jan27	2024 Feb04	Senegal	6W [spots]	OE3GEA	425DXN 20240127	
2024 Jan30	2024 Feb02	Madeira	CT3 [spots]	EB7DX	TDDX 20240112	
Febr	uary					
2024 Feb02	2024 Feb07	Norfolk I	VK9N [spots]		DXW.Net 20240122	
2024 Feb03	2024 Apr16	Senegal	6W7	Club Log OQRS	425DXN 20240119	
2024 Feb04	2024 Feb09	Philippines	DU3	LoTW	425DXN 20240119	
2024 Feb04	2024 Feb11	Reunion	FR4AV	EA5GL	425DXN 20240127	
2024 Feb04	2024 Feb11	Vanuatu	YJ	LoTW	JH3QFL 20231212	
2024 Feb05	2024 Feb12	Aruba	P49X	LoTW	425DXN 20240202	
2024 Feb06	2024 Feb20	Antigua & Barbuda	<u>V26CV</u>	LoTW	TDDX 20231222	
2024 Feb07	2024 Feb10	Fiji	3D2	Home Call	DXW.Net 20240202	

**Editors NOTE:** 

I've intentionally left a wide margin here for your notes on band and mode fills required.

## Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2024 Feb07	2024 Feb29	Senegal	6W7	Club Log OQRS	DXW.Net 20230115	
2024 Feb10	2024 Feb18	Georgia	<u>4L</u>	LoTW	TDDX 20231201	
2024 Feb10	2024 Feb19	Samoa	5W	Home Call	DXW.Net 20240202	
2024 Feb10	2024 Feb24	Juan Fernan- dez	<u>CB0ZA</u>	LoTW	DXW.Net 20230605	
2024 Feb10	2024 Feb28	Solomon Is	H44MS	LoTW	TDDX 20231111	
2024 Feb12	2024 Feb22	Vietnam	XV9WJR	LoTW	425DXN 20240202	
2024 Feb13	2024 Feb22	Greenland	ОХ	See Info	OZ7AM 20240201	
2024 Feb14	2024 Feb24	Guyana	<u>8R7X</u>	LoTW	DK6SP 20230611	
2024 Feb15	2024 Feb28	Sint Maarten	PJ7	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240202	
ARRL In	ARRL International DX Contest, CW (Feb 17-18, 2024) Check here for					
2024 Feb17	2024 Feb27	St Kitts & Ne- vis	<u>V47JA</u>	LoTW	W5JON 20240124	
2024 Feb17	2024 Mar03	Madagascar	5R	S53BV Direct	TDDX 20240104	
2024 Feb19	2024 Mar09	Wallis & Fu- tuna	FW8	LoTW	DXW.Net 20231227	
2024 Feb20	2024 Feb27	Mauritius	3B8	LoTW	TDDX 20230725	
2024 Feb20	2024 Feb27	Tonga	A35	Home Call	DXW.Net 20240202	
2024	2024 Mar07	Temotu	H40WA	LoTW	N6PSE 20230126	
Feb22						
2024 Feb25	2024 Mar04	St Kitts & Ne- vis	V4	K1ZN	K1ZN 20230925	
2024			V4 XU7GNY	K1ZN LoTW		

## Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2024 Feb27	2024 Mar03	Lord Howe I	VK9L		DXW.Net 20240122
2024 Feb27	2024 Mar04	US Virgin Is	NP2R	LoTW	TDDX 20240110
Ма	rch				
2024 Mar01	2024 Mar31	Benin	TY5C	LoTW	DXW.Net 20230920
ARRL Int	<u>ternational</u>	DX Contest, Phor	ne (Mar 2-3,	2024) Chec	k here for
2024 Mar02	2024 Mar30	Sint Maarten	PJ7AA	LoTW	TDDX 20230807
2024 Mar03	2024 Mar11	Curacao	PJ2	LoTW	DK5ON 20231212
2024 Mar03	2024 Mar22	Grenada	J38R		DXW.Net 20231223
2024 Mar04	2024 Mar16	Grenada	J3	LoTW	ON4MA 20230622
2024 Mar08	2024 Mar20	Tanzania	5H3VJG	МООХО	DXW.Net 20231202
2024 Mar10	2024 Mar19	New Caledo- nia	FK	LoTW	DXW.Net 20231227
2024 Mar11	2024 Mar27	Curacao	PJ2	LoTW	DK5ON 20231219
2024 Mar12	2024 Mar27	East Kiribati	<u>T32EU</u>	LoTW	DL2AWG 20240118
2024 Mar16	2024 Mar21	Bahamas	<u>C6A</u>	LoTW	TDDX 20231115
2024 Mar20	2024 Mar29	Lesotho	7P8EI	M0OXO OQRS	TDDX 20231203
2024 Mar25	2024 Apr08	Guadeloupe	TO1Q	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240120
2024 Mar26	2024 Apr01	Cyprus SBA	ZC4MK	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240108
2024 Mar26	2024 Apr02	Turks & Cai- cos	VQ5P	LoTW	TDDX 20240123
2024 Mar27	2024 Apr03	Austral Is	TX5XG	LoTW	DXW.Net 20230810

## Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2024 Mar29	2024 Mar31	Mayotte	TO4VV	LoTW	DXW.Net 20230902	
April						
2024 Apr05	2024 Apr07	Mayotte	TO4VV	LoTW	DXW.Net 20230902	
2024 Apr12	2024 Apr14	Mayotte	TO4VV	LoTW	DXW.Net 20230902	
2024 Apr18	2024 Apr21	Svalbard	JW8EKA	LA8EKA	DXW.Net 20240103	
2024 Apr18	2024 May08	Bhutan	<u>A52</u>	Club Log OQRS	TDDX 20240109	
2024 Apr24	2024 May01	Mariana Is	KH0	LoTW	TDDX 20240202	
Ju	ıly					
2024 Jul02	2024 Jul15	St Pierre & Miquelon	FP	LoTW	TDDX	
					20231024	
RSGB IOTA Contest (Jul 27-28, 2024) Check here for pericontest activity						
Aug	just					
2024 Aug17	2024 Aug30	Timor Leste	4W	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240131	
2024 Aug23	2024 Sep30	Tristan da Cunha	ZD9GJ	LoTW	DXW.Net 20231123	
September					20231123	
2024 Sep05	2024 Sep15	Pitcairn	VP6WR	TBA	DXW.Net 20240123	
2024 Sep17	2024 Sep21	French Poly- nesia	FO	TBA	<u>DXW.Net</u>	
·	-	nesia			20240123	
	October					
2024 Oct09	2024 Oct14	Svalbard	JW5X	LA5X	DXW.Net 20240114	
2024 Oct16	2024 Oct30	Vanuatu	YJ0VV	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240109	
2025						
Janı	uary			<u> </u>		
2025 Jan05	2025 Jan26	Bouvet I	3Y0K	TBA	DXW.Net 20231202	