Volume 34 Issue 5 SEMDXA NEWSLETTER May 2024



PRES Sez

Hi All,

Dayton - Hamvention

Mark your calendar if you haven't yet, Hamvention is just a few weeks away, starting May 17th. This will be my 3 rd trip to Dayton. I'm like a kid in a candy store...look but don't bring anything home my wife says! I'm looking forward to another visit for the whole weekend. The other 2 times I have gone, I go for the entire event. I really take my time to look at everything. Leading up to Hamvention, I start making a list of the things I might need in my shack and make the time to find these booths and talk to the company in detail. This year I am going to see what sessions they are offering and maybe attend a few. We will see. I hope to run into you all in Dayton if you go!

Amateurs to the rescue!

Amateur Radio Saves Family in Death Valley National Park -04/12/2024 Death Valley National Park is in a remote desert in southern California, where mobile phone networks are spotty at best. On Saturday, April 6, a radio amateur and his family were enjoying the park when their vehicle became stuck in mud in a dangerous area. Without access to a cell network, the ham called for help on the 10meter band.

According to a news release from the Black Swamp Amateur Radio Club, Caleb Gustwiller, KD8TGB, jumped into action.

Gustwiller was monitoring from Ohio when he picked up the distress call. He was able to hear the call sign and the general location of the ham in distress. He lost the signal to the noise, so he wrote a post in the Parks on the Air® Facebook group asking for other hams to listen for the calls.

(cont'd page 2)

NEXT Meeting:

In-Person

May 8th, 2024 at 7 PM

Fork n' Pint in Waterford

Program

Bernie McClenny

W3UR

Presenting

Top 25 DXCC

Entities

SEMDXA OFFICERS

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

Director: Doug N8VY **Club Appointees:**

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

ARRL and CO 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

SEMDXA Web Site: www.semdxa.org

Several hams contacted emergency officials in southern California, which led to the ham and their family being rescued within a few hours by park rangers. The club stated in their Facebook post: "Without Caleb hearing this distress call, it could have quickly become a very deadly situation for the operator and his family.

My Journey to DXCC

I have made progress on countries/entities that I have made contact with. Last reported I was at 275 contacts to different countries/entities. 252 are confirmed. I am now at 278 with 253 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!

The Prez - 73's

Meeting Minutes April 2024

The April SEMDXA meeting was chaired by our president Fred, KD8ZYD. The meeting started at 7:00 PM. There were 9 in attendance and zero zoomed.

Acceptance of meeting minutes for the March 2024 meeting as presented in the March 2024 issue of The Long Path was requested by Fred, KD8ZYD. With no comments or corrections tabled, acceptance was motioned by Al, K8SIX and seconded by Fred, KD8ZYD. Accepted by all.

Treasurers report was presented by Brad, N8SNM. Keith, KB1SF motioned to accept and 2nd by Mike, WD8S. Accepted by all.

Old Business:

Fred, KD8ZYD asked if anyone was interested in a shirt(s) with the SEMDXA logo. If you are interested, please contact Fred. Design of logo ongoing.

A previous meeting someone tabled the possibility of moving our 2nd Wednesday meeting to another date so as to accommodate some members who have a conflict with 2nd Wednesdays.

Chet, VE3CFK motioned that SEMDXA explore the possibility. 2nd by Fred, KD8ZYD. Brad, N8SNM volunteered to follow up with Fork n' Pint.

Chet, VE3CFK reported back that he had not heard anything further re sponsoring a DX Marathon Plaque from the organizer.

New Business

Fred, KD8ZYD motioned that SEMDXA sponsor the upcoming Jarvis DXpedition for \$250. Motion to accept by Lee, N8LJ. Motion unanimously accepted by members present.

The evenings presentation was by Adrian, KO8SCA re Kiska Island DXpedition. Another excellent presentation by Adrian. Thank you Adrian for the nights presentation and all the previous presentations you have made to our club.

Motion to end meeting made by Doug, N8VY and 2nded by Al, K8SIX. Meeting ended at 8:10 PM.

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.

 $\frac{\text{https://umich.zoom.us/j/91352970493?pwd=N0t3N1RpUFZjV}}{\text{GQzZHZwTnU0bHpuUT09}}$

CQ Publisher SK

Received this from Bernie, W3UR:

CQ Publisher Dick Ross, K2MGA, SK

It is with great sadness that we report the passing on April 27 of Richard A. "Dick" Ross, K2MGA. He was 84. Dick was Publisher of CQ magazine since 1979, and was its editor in the 1960s. As President of CQ Communications, Inc., Dick was also publisher of multiple magazine titles, including Popular Communications, CQ VHF, CQ Contest, WorldRadio Online, Communications Quarterly, CB Radio, Electronic Servicing and Technology, Modern Electronics, MicroComputer Journal, and Music and Computer Educator. In addition, Dick oversaw the production and publication of CQ books and calendars, the CQ Video Library and more. In 2010, Dick received the Dayton Hamvention's Special Achievement Award.

He is survived by his wife, Cathy, daughters Kate and Jennifer, their husbands and five grandchildren. A memorial service will be scheduled at a future date.

FT4GL - Glorioso

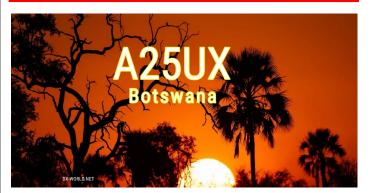
Latest Update:

The two pallets of equipment arrived in Mayotte on April 23. Still need to receive the band filters which will be supplied by F5CYS, DX ENGINEERING and RA6LBS – will have them at the end of the month. The departure of F5RQQ and F5TVL to Mayotte to help Marek FH4VVK / FT4GL has been brought forward by a day (May 13). There will be OQRS and this will be clarified shortly.

Hamfests

- 5/4/24 AC8RC Mini-Swap and Trunk Sale, Dorr, MI
- 5/4/24 Wexaukee ARC Swap and Shop, Cadillac, MI
- 5/5/24 Lucas Co. ARES Trunk Sale & Swap Meet, Toledo, OH
- 5/11/24 GMARC Trunk Swap at the PPG, Shelby Twp, MI
- 5/11/24 5/16/2024 RV Radio Network, Millersburg, OH
- 5/16/24 05/19/24 Four Days in May, Fairborn, OH
- 5/17/24 5/19/24 Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH

A25 - Botswana



During August 3-9, 2024 look for Andreas DB8UX to be active from Botswana as A25UX. QRV on 40-10m using wire antenna; low power; FT8. QSL via LoTW.

JW - Svalbard

From 30th April to 4th May 2024, look for Helge LB4MI (previously JX/LB4MI) to be active from Svalbard. This will mainly be a POTA and SOTA activity; CW only. He will QRV with JW9DSA and JW5WUA. Some activity also from JW5E clubstation.

Helge writes:

As conditions at outdoor QTH's might change rapidly with regards to weather or other unexpected events, please expect some QRX or sudden QRT without announcements. We need to do shifts with icebear lookout during activations, using one operator. I will be operating split, starting 1 up and spreading 1-3 up depending on pileup. CW speed 16-17 WPM. QSL via Club Log, QRZ and LoTW.

3D2/c - Conway



Some info from the team: WX is not so good. Birds on the island are crazy and keep smashing into the verticals every hour. Waste of time using 80m = zero signals; 160 the same. 40m signals are weak. 10-30m very good. CW coming and some SSB. The ship is too far away from Conway and they are loosing wifi from vessel's Starlink. Will be hard to upload logs for now. Work and wait.

YI - Iraq

IZ5WPZ, Antonio, is now in Baghdad, Iraq and QRV as YI9WPZ until August 2024. He has an IC-7300 running 400 watts into a 20 meter long wire antenna with a 9:1 balun. Activity will be on SSB, CW and FT8 on all HF bands. QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW, Club Log and HRDlog or via IK2DUW

9X - Rwanda

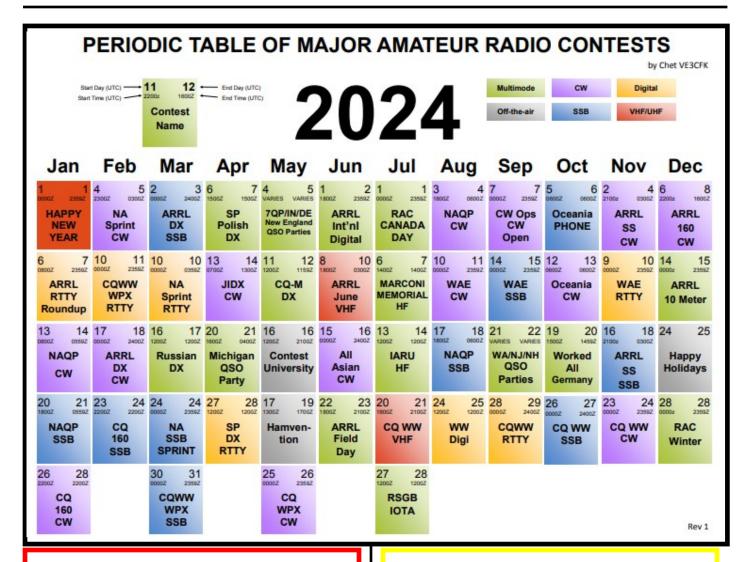
DF2WO, Harold, is scheduled to be back in Rwanda May 2nd until May 17. While there he will be operating as 9X2AW on CW and SSB and possibly on FT8 on 80 through 6 meters.

Hamvention

Dayton Hamvention is May 16th to the 19th. DX University is on the Thursday. Hamvention is Friday to Sunday. ARRL convention is Saturday. Many dinners to attend: Top Band, Contest, DX, Flex Radio and more. (your editor is going to the Top Band Dinner. Hope to bump into a few of the SEMDXA members during the weekend). Tickets for the various dinners are still available.

A5 - Bhutan

Bhutan is still on the air. Propagation at their start into EN82 land was poor at the start, but now is solid copy. (your editor was concerned he'd never get a QSO on FT8, but as time progressed, so did the number of log entries.)



FT#G - Glorioso

Marek, FH4VVK will be SSB and digital simultaneously from May 24 to June 19. Marek will be taking his own equipment however "to make this activity possible, he needs donations, additional materials and sponsors quickly". Space is limited therefore "the choice of equipment will be made according to the particular conditions of this DXCC and donations received". WEBSITE

SOLAR HAM

The website SOLAR HAM has changed its URL It is now **SOLARHAM.COM**. It was previously .**NET**

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

CLUBLOG

Most wanted - Top 25

- 1. **P5** DPRK (NORTH KOREA)
- 2. BS7H SCARBOROUGH REEF
- 3. CEOX 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 ISLANDS
- 13. KH4 MIDWAY ISLAND
- 14. VK0M MACQUARIE ISLAND
- 15. PYOS SAINT PETER AND PAUL ROCKS
- 16. KP5 DESECHEO ISLAND
- 17. **VP0S** SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS
- 18. KH5 PALMYRA & JARVIS ISLANDS
- 19. **ZL9** NEW ZEALAND SUBANTARCTIC IS-LANDS
- 20. FK/C CHESTERFIELD ISLANDS
- 21. VK0H HEARD ISLAND
- 22. FT/T TROMELIN ISLAND
- 23. EZ TURKMENISTAN
- 24. YK SYRIA
- 25. **ZL8** KERMADEC ISLAND

3D2/r - Rotuma

The Pacific Islands DXpedition Group (PIDXG) announces that Gregg, W6IZT; Hal, W8HC; Nathan, K4NHW and 3 additional operators (to be announced) will operate from Rotuma (3D2/R) November 15 to December 4. They plan to have 3 locally operated stations and two RIBs. Permits and accommodations have been secured.

6M Season Starting?

Editorial Ramblings

I apologize for the missing ZOOM one step link in the April issue of The Long Path. It has been reinserted this month If you find that the link is missing in any particular issue, just go into the SEMDXA website and pull up a previous issue of the Long Path. You'll find it there.

As many of our readership know, I've been playing with FT8 in a big way the last 4 years. I have worked about 2050 grid squares from around the world (just something to do - collect grid squares. The little ones, not the large ones). I was wondering how many active grid squares there are on FT8? Anybody have more than 2000? I'm still missing about 25 for the USA, so the total would be over 2100 I'm guessing.

I'm looking at doing a mini 6M DXpedition to a rare Ontario Grid square. Plans are to use a Yaesu FT-857 and 3 element beam. Looking for ideas and suggestions to make it a successful endeavor. In particular, I'm looking for suggestions for a suitable mast about 15 to 20 feet tall.

There sure is a lot of DX on these days, including 3G0, A52, JD1, 3D2/c, OJ0, CE0Y and more. And more to come. It's nice to see all this DX especially after the drought of the COVID years.

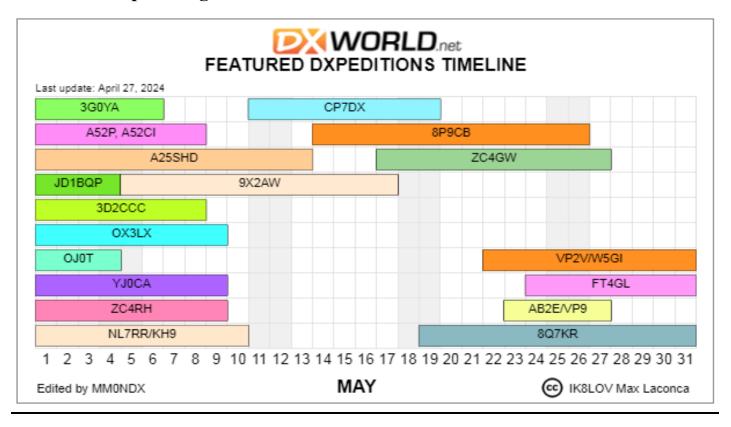
The CLUBLOG Top 25 Most wanted listing (on the left) has been updated.

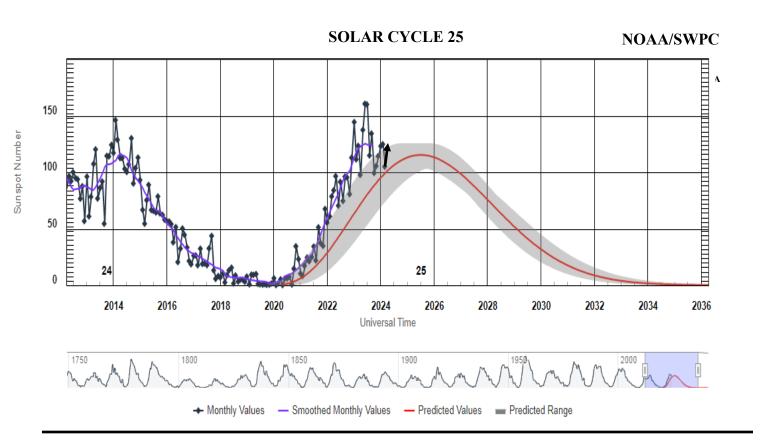
June is SEMDXA officer election month. Just thought I'd mention that.

E5/s - S Cook Is

ZL2KE, ZL4CZ and their XYLs plan to be on Roratonga and Aitutaki between July 21 and August 5 on SSB and CW. Plan to be on 20, 15 and 10M and some 40, 17 1nd 12 and possibly 160 and 80.

Credit to DX World



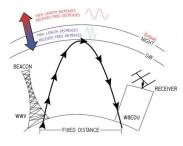


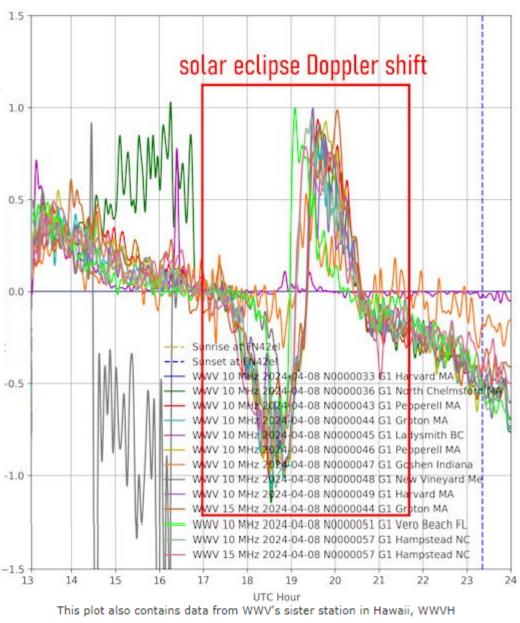
SOLAR ECLIPSE SHIFTED TIME SIGNALS IN USA

The US National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has a radio station in Fort Collins, Colorado. Call letters: WWV. Operating at multiple shortwave frequencies, WWV broadcasts precise time and frequency information 24/7 to listeners worldwide. On April 8, 2024, the frequency of WWV shifted:

"It was the solar eclipse." says ham radio operator Kristina Collins (W8EDU) of Cleveland. Ohio, who assembled records from 13 monitoring stations in and around the path of totality. "The HamSCI Personal Space Weather Station Network's Grape stations measure Doppler shift in the carrier signal of time standard radio stations such as WWV. On April 8th, the network saw a distinct S-curve signature associated with the eclipse."

The Doppler shift occured when the shadow of the Moon pierced the ionosphere, creating a temporary hole where ionization was reduced. This, in turn, altered the "skip distance" from transmitters to receivers, as shown in the diagram below:





Because the skip point was moving, reflected radio signals were naturally Doppler-shifted. Spaceweather.com reader and senior physicist Larry Carr of Brookhaven National Labs made this calculation: "Using the 10 MHz WWV fre-

quency, an average shift of about 1/2 Hz implies the layer bottom (the 'skip point') was moving at speeds up to 15 m/s. During the entire eclipse, the reflecting layer moved on the order of 50 km." The total Doppler shift was only a few cycles per second, similar to normal night-day variations, so no one actually lost track of time during the eclipse. Nevertheless, it is a fascinating demonstration of an eclipse's power to touch the Earth.

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>		via	by	
2024	2024					
Ap	ril					
2024 Apr13	2024 Apr28	Bonaire	PJ4TB [spots]	LoTW	PJ4TB 20240330	
2024 Apr15	2024 May15	Wake I	KH9 [spots]	LoTW	TDDX 20240408	
2024 Apr16	2024 Apr28	Niue	E6SP [spots]	LoTW	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20240326	
2024 Apr16	2024 Apr30	Austral Is	TX7W [spots]	LoTW	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20240209	
2024 Apr16	2024 Apr30	Chad	TT8RR	See Web Page	TDDX	
•			[spots]	<u> </u>	20240413	
2024 Apr17	2024 Apr28	Niue	E6SP [spots]	LoTW	TDDX 20240416	
2024 Apr18	2024 May01	St Kitts & Nevis	V4 [spots]	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240419	
2024 Apr18	2024 May06	Easter I	3G0YA [spots]	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240411	
2024 Apr18	2024 May08	Bhutan	<u>A52</u> [spots]	Club Log OQRS	TDDX 20240109	
2024 Apr20	2024 May10	Uganda	5X3L [spots]	NP2OR	DXW.Net 20240419	
2024 Apr22	2024 May04	Ogasawara	JD1BQP [spots]	LoTW	425DXN 20240405	
2024 Apr22	2024 May04	Ogasawara		JD1BMH Buro	DXW.Net	
2024 Apr23	2024 Apr30	Honduras	[spots] HR9 [spots]	LoTW	20240405 TDDX 20240330	
2024 Apr25	2024 Apr30	Mariana I	KH0 [spots]	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240314	
2024 Apr26	2024 Apr30	French Pol- ynesia	FO [spots]	JI1JKW	DXW.Net 20240424	
2024 Apr26	2024 May04	Market Reef	OJOT [spots]	LoTW	TDDX 20240320	

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 Apr26	2024 May09	Greeland	OX3LX [spots]	OZ0J	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20240424		
2024 Apr27	2024 May09	Vanuatu	YJ0CA [spots]	VK2YUS Direct	VK2YUS 20240306		
2024 Apr28	2024 May09	Cyprus SBA	ZC4RH [spots]		TDDX 20240418		
2024 Apr28	2024 May04	Bermuda	VP9 [spots]	LoTW	TDDX 20240426		
2024 Apr28	2024 May07	Conway Reef	3D2CCC [spots]	See Info	DXW.Net 20240427		
2024 Apr29	2024 May05	Svalbard	JW9DSA	LoTW	425DXN 20240426		
2024 Apr30	2024 May13	Botswana	A25SHD	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240320		
Ma	May						
2024 May02	2024 May17	Rwanda	9X2AW	M0OXO OQRS	TDDX 20240408		
2024 May03	2024 May08	Barbados	8P9NO	Club Log OQRS	TDDX 20240416		
2024 May11	2024 May19	Bolivia	CP7DX	LoTW	TDDX 20240314		
2024 May14	2024 May26	Barbados	8P9CB	WA7RA R	TDDX 20240403		
2024 May17	2024 May27	Cyprus SBA	MW0BRO	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240417		
2024 May19	2024 May31	Maldives	8Q7KR	DO4RK R (B/d)	TDDX 20240306		
2024 May23	2024 May27	Bermuda	VP9	See Info	AB2E 20240418		
2024 May24	2024 Jun19	Glorioso Is	FT4GL	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240315		
2024 May22	2024 Jun03	Br Virgin Is	VP2V	LoTW	TDDX 20240313		
2024 May22	2024 Jun05	Ogasawara	JD1BQW	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240426		

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2024 May30	2024 Jun10	Pitcairn	VP6DF	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240422	
2024 May30	2024 Jun20	Crete	SV9	DK5EW Direct	TDDX 20240419	
Ju	ne					
2024 Jun01	2024 Jun15	Mozam- bique	C91AHV	LoTW	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20240403	
2024 Jun16	2024 Jun29	Maldives	8Q7JF	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240227	
Ju	ıly					
2024 Jul01	2024 Jul12	Maldives	8Q7EC	OE3DEC Buro	TDDX 20240405	
2024 Jul02	2024 Jul15	St Pierre & Miquelon	FP	LoTW	TDDX	
2024 Jul04	2024 Jul18	Reunion	TO7PX	IK2DUW	20231024 <u>TDDX</u> 20240309	
RSGB IOTA Contest (Jul 27-28, 2024) Check here for pericontest activity						
Aug	just					
2024 Aug01	2024 Aug13	Palmyra Jarvis Is	N5J	TBA	DXW.Net 20240304	
2024 Aug10	2024 Aug17	St Lucia	J6	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240226	
2024 Aug10	2024 Aug22	St Pierre & Miquelon	TO8FP	Club Log OQRS	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20230910	
2024 Aug17	2024 Aug30	Timor Leste	4W	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240131	
2024 Aug23	2024 Sep30	Tristan da Cunha	ZD9GJ	LoTW	DXW.Net 20231123	
2024 Aug26	2024 Sep05	St Paul I	CY9C	LoTW	WA4DAN 20240315	
September				<u> </u>		
2024 Sep03	2024 Sep13	Zimbabwe	<u>Z22AO</u>	HA5AO OQRS	DXW.Net 20240304	

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

September						
2024	2024	7:	72240	HA5AO	DXW.Net	
Sep03	Sep13	Zimbabwe	<u>Z22AO</u>	OQRS	20240304	
2024	2024	Monaco	3A	EB7DX	DXW.Net	
Sep05	Sep09				20240418	
2024 Sep05	2024 Sep15	Pitcairn	VP6WR	TBA	DXW.Net	
2024	2024				20240123 OZ0J	
Sep13	2024 Sep22	Greenland	<u>OX0J</u>	LoTW	20240331	
2024	2024	Zambia	<u>9J2AO</u>	HA5AO OQRS	DXW.Net	
Sep14	Sep23	Zambia			20240304	
2024	2024 San 24	French Pol-	FO	ТВА	DXW.Net	
Sep17	Sep21	ynesia 10			20240123	
2024	2024	Botswana	A25AO	HA5AO	<u>DXW.Net</u>	
Sep24	Oct04	Dotowana	7123710	OQRS	20240304	
	October					
2024 Oct05	2024 Oct14	Namibia	<u>V5</u>	HA5AO OQRS	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20240304	
2024	2024	Svalbard	JW5X	LA5X	DXW.Net	
Oct09	Oct14	014.54.4			20240114	
2024 Oct16	2024 Oct30	Vanuatu	YJ0VV	LoTW	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20240109	
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB (Oct 26-27, 2024) Check here for pericon-						
Nove	mber					
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW (Nov 23-24, 2024) Check here for pericon-						
December						
2024	2024	French Gui-			OZ0J	
Dec20	Dec31	ana	FY	LoTW	20240331	
2025						
January						
2025	2025	Bouvet I	3Y0K	TBA	DXW.Net	
Jan05	Jan26	200.000	0.01	, `	20231202	