



Long Path



Volume 37 Issue 2

SEMDXA NEWSLETTER

February 2019



Pres Sez

I just received an email about a new website. It is www.dxcals.info and it is free, however, they will take a donation if you feel so inclined. This site is a DX calendar dreamed up by Alex, 5B4ALX (Cyprus) and implemented by Fabio, IK2LTR (Italy of course). When you go to the site you see a calendar and you select the month. A calendar pops up with all the DX expeditions for that month.

For example, our own Pete, ZF2PG & K8PGJ was listed for January 12-15 in the Cayman Islands along with the bands and modes he would be on. I worked him both before and during the contest. In addition, there is QSL information. His listing was shown for each day he was there. Fabio states "real calendar dedicated to Dxpedition hunters." Certainly worth taking a look at.

Larry, K8UT has informed me that Al, K8SIX has posted a list on our website of items available from the estate of Bob SK, K8VFFV. The club gets first crack at the equipment before Al goes public with it.

That's it for now. See you on the 14th.

73

Bob, K8RGM

Calendar

NEXT Meeting:

NEW DAY

2nd THURSDAY

February 14, 2019

Gino's Restaurant

1999 Cass Lake Rd,
Keego Harbor, MI 48320

Directions: [Gino's Pizza](#)

Gathering starts at **5:30 pm (dinner on you) and meeting begins at 7 pm** followed by the presentation.

PRESENTATION for Feb 14:
The A52A Bhutan DXpedition
of 2000

SEMDXA OFFICERS

President: Robert Mueller, **K8RGM**

Vice-president: Dave De Rain, **K8ESQ**

Treasurer: Brad Nowak, **N8SNM**

Secretary: Doug Basberg, **N8VY**

Program Director: Stan Arnett, **AC8W**
and Steve Culp, **K8QKY**

Directors: Ted, **K8NA**, Bob, **K8VFFV**,
and Lee, **N8LJ**

Club Appointees:

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

LP Publisher: Chet Latawiec, **VE3CFK**

ARRL and CQ Appointees:

DXCC Checker: Stan Arnett, **AC8W**

DXCC Checker: Bill Jones, **N8KF**

DXCC Checker: Less Butler, **W8MSP**

VUCC Checker: Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

VUCC Checker: Jim Sanford, **K8ZZU**

CQ Checker: Mike Rudzki, **N8MR**

CQ Checker: Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

SEMDXA Meeting Minutes

For January 2019

Doug Basberg, N8VY, secretary

- * Meeting called to order by Bob K8RGM, president at 7:03pm 01/10/2019
- * Roll Call by voice. 21 members in attendance
- * Treasury Report for November and December presented by Brad N8SNM. Motion to approve by Rick KB500 and 2nd by Lee N8LJ and approved by unanimous vote except Tim K8NWD.
- * Minutes as posted in Long Path. Motion to approve by Tim K8NWD and 2nd by Stan AC8W and approved by unanimous vote.

Old Business

- * Bob Crawford K8VFFV became a silent key recently. He was a valued member of SEMDXA and flowers were sent to the funeral home. A number of members attended the funeral. Bob's XYL Betty Ann sent a note of appreciation for the flowers, which will be passed around at this meeting.
- * The traditional Christmas lunch at Zuckey Lake was very well attended and provided great socializing. This has been a tradition for many years and we certainly hope for many more.

New Business

- * Bob K8RGM reminded members of the Livonia Swap on Feb 17th 8-12noon.
- * Brad N8SNM has the part number for the projector bulb assembly [SP-LAMP-018 which is from the projector manual and their web site www.infocus.com] and will pursue obtaining a backup bulb assembly. When it arrives, we will

switch to the new bulb and keep the old bulb in reserve. That allows us to test the new bulb within the warranty period.

- * The 50/50 drawing was won by our 50-50 drawing manager who collected the money for the tickets, gave himself the winning ticket, and drew the winning ticket. We will appoint a 'special council' to investigate. We all know how that goes and we will all be dead long before any determination is made.
- * Al Bailey K8SIX is handling Bob's K8VFFV estate items for HAM radio. Bob had a lot of equipment and antennas. Al is compiling an inventory that he will provide to Larry K8UT for publication on the web site. Perhaps an email will be sent to the membership announcing the availability of the inventory on the web page (www.SEMDXA.org).
- * Bob K8VFFV was the awards manager for SEMDXA and Doug N8VY volunteered to take over those duties. Members submit their new awards on-line at the web site on a form that is forwarded to Doug for posting to the web site in the appropriate awards area of the site.
- * Our newsletter editor, Chet VE3CFK, was not in attendance because he was undergoing kidney stone surgery the day of the meeting. We all wish him well. We know he would have attended if the surgery was the day before the meeting.
- * Bob K8RGM suggested we apply for a 48% refund of the \$500.00 donation SEMDXA made to the failed Bouvet Island Dxpediton. Our Treasurer, Brad N8SNM will apply for the refund. The new effort to do a Bouvet Island Dxpediton has some issues and expect to delay departure until they are resolved. It was suggested that we hold off donating to the new expedition at this time.
- * Bob K8RGM introduced our program manager, Stan AC8W to provide our presentation of four short videos from www.youtube.com about Bouvet Island. We were all informed about the history and terrain of the island. It is a very inhospitable and dangerous place. We are lucky anyone would do a

Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

◆ Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm motion by Doug N8VY and 2nd by Tim K8NWD and appreciated by all.

POSTAL RATE INCREASE !

Yup. It's going up again! Although if you recall, it went down a penny or two recently, so this move just nullifies the decrease (if my memory serves me correctly).

At the end of January, U.S. domestic postage is going up by 5 cents to 55 cents, but additional ounces, i.e. to stateside QSO bureaus, will go down quite a bit. International letters, including to Canada, will remain at \$1.15. "Forever" stamps already purchased will still be good.

Here's a summary of the rates [USPS web site](#) The

Product	Current	Proposed
Letters (1 oz.)	50 cents	55 cents
Letters additional ounces	21 cents	15 cents
Letters (metered 1 oz.)	47 cents	50 cents
Outbound International Letters (1 oz.)	\$1.15	\$1.15
Domestic Postcards	35 cents	35 cents
Letters to Canada (1 oz.)	\$1.15	\$1.15

Canadian postal rates went up mid January! Below is a summary which has been converted into

Product	Old Rate	New Rate
Letters (1 oz.)	74 cents	78 cents
Letters up to 1.75 oz	90 cents	94 cents
Letters (metered 1 oz.)	62 cents	64 cents
Outbound International Letters (1 oz.)	\$2.09	\$2.21
Domestic Postcards	74 cents	78 cents
Letters to USA (1 oz.)	\$1.00	\$1.07

US dollars. Your editor mails his International QSLs out of the USA for a savings of approximately \$1.06 US or \$1.43 Canadian and USA bound QSLs saves me as much as 52 cents US or 70 cents Canadian. There are benefits to living on the border!

Cycle 24

Sunspot Cycle 24 ending, Cycle 25 may start in 2019 and peak in 2024.

A recent study in the journal Nature predicts Cycle 25 will not be the dire death of the airwaves predicted. Excellent fit in modelling by the Indian scientists connotes Cycle 25 will be at least as strong as Cycle 24.

No 'Maunder minimum' in sight; summary at: [What will the Sun do next?](#)

Longest Awaited DX Entities by DX Coffee

I (editor of DX Coffee) am bringing back up on these pages a thread started by Enrico IZ5CML on the hamradioweb.org forum. There he analyzed the longest awaited DXCC entities. For further comments or updates, please see (in Italian) <http://www.hamradioweb.org/forums/showthread.php?t=23080>. We thank Enrico for writing these notes.

Being intrigued by a discussion occurred somewhere else, I have wanted to make this short list of the DXCC entities that have been missed on our bands for the longest time. Having based on my log and some search on the net, this should be the "rank".

There can be mistakes or omissions, so if someone has the correct info, please report it here; here I list the latest activity from a certain entity; it is not necessarily a large DXpedition, it can also be a single operator making 1000 QSO.

I went back to 2006 and before, because a waiting time of 10-12 years is quite "normal" for the "most wanted" entities. More than 12 years is where the wait gets "abnormal".

The only country, meant as a nation, in this list is the untar-nished North Korea, under a fierce dictatorship.

In the past, back in the 80's and 90's, there were several nations with a "most wanted" status, usually for wars or political reason; some prefixes come to mind: 3V8, 5A, 7O, YA, A5,

Longest Awaited DX Entities (cont'd)

S2, XU, XY, and even BY in older times! From this point of view, times have changed and now there are not many nations where hams are considered enemies.

In 2019 what are the longest awaited DXCC entities?

P5 North Korea was operated during a very short activity in 2015, by Dom 3Z9DX, but the QSO were so few (785) that the demand has remained basically the same as before. **17 years** without a substantial activity.

3Y/B Buovet, it has been **17 years** since 3Y0C, but in 2009 we had a short operation with a few hundred QSO.

CE0X San Felix island, **17 years** since XR0X.

KH3 Johnston island (AH3D 2003) , **BP9 Pratas island** (BQ9P 2003) **17 years**.

KH7/K Kure atoll, with K7C in 2005, almost **14 years**.

FT5/X Kerguelen, after FT5XO in 2005, only a short operation in 2016, with a few hundred QSO , **14 years**.

3Y/P Peter one, **13 years** since 3Y0X.

EZ Turkmenistan, actually missing on the bands from 2007, but in 2006 the activity was already very sparse, therefore **12-13 years**, for a country that used to have a very normal activity for decades with many resident operators; yet, since 2006 it has no ham radio operations due to a short sighted dictatorship and there are no clues as to when this situation will be unlocked.

Down the ranking, there are many entities that we have been waiting for 10-11 years, but this is a normal time for such remote places that are hard to get to. You have to consider though that the wait is bound to get longer for these entities; in a few years time, maybe even before we start to take advantage of the new solar cycle, we will have a lot of entities inactive from 14-15-16 years and this is quite a long time; will there be enough resources to activate them before too long? It's unlikely, hence the time required to obtain the Top Honor Roll will grow, but in the end, isn't this that makes it so fascinating?

It is to be said, as a final consideration, that compared to a few years ago, there are currently more Dxpeditions to semi-rare entities and, except for P5 and EZ, there aren't any really rare countries (nations).

What remains is a "hard core" of 15-20 entities where it is really difficult to go, whether for logistical or bureaucratic

reasons (see how hard it is to get a landing permission on all the KH's from the USNWS...).

VP6 Pitcairn Is.

October this year is the target timeframe for an expedition, with a shipping container with the gear ready to go from New Zealand by August 1. The Braveheart arrives in Moorea October 7 after a previous charter. It will re-provision and refuel, then sail for Mangareva, arriving October 13. The op team flies from Tahiti to Mangareva the 15th of October and boards, sailing for Pitcairn that evening, arriving at dawn October 17 to begin offloading the gear. They hope to have all the stations on the air October 18, with 14 days on the island. With the first payment for the Braveheart due in about two months, they appreciate the financial support.

[Pitcairn DXpedition WEB Site](#)

I sit beside my lonely fire
And pray for wisdom yet
For calmness to remember
The DX I didn't get

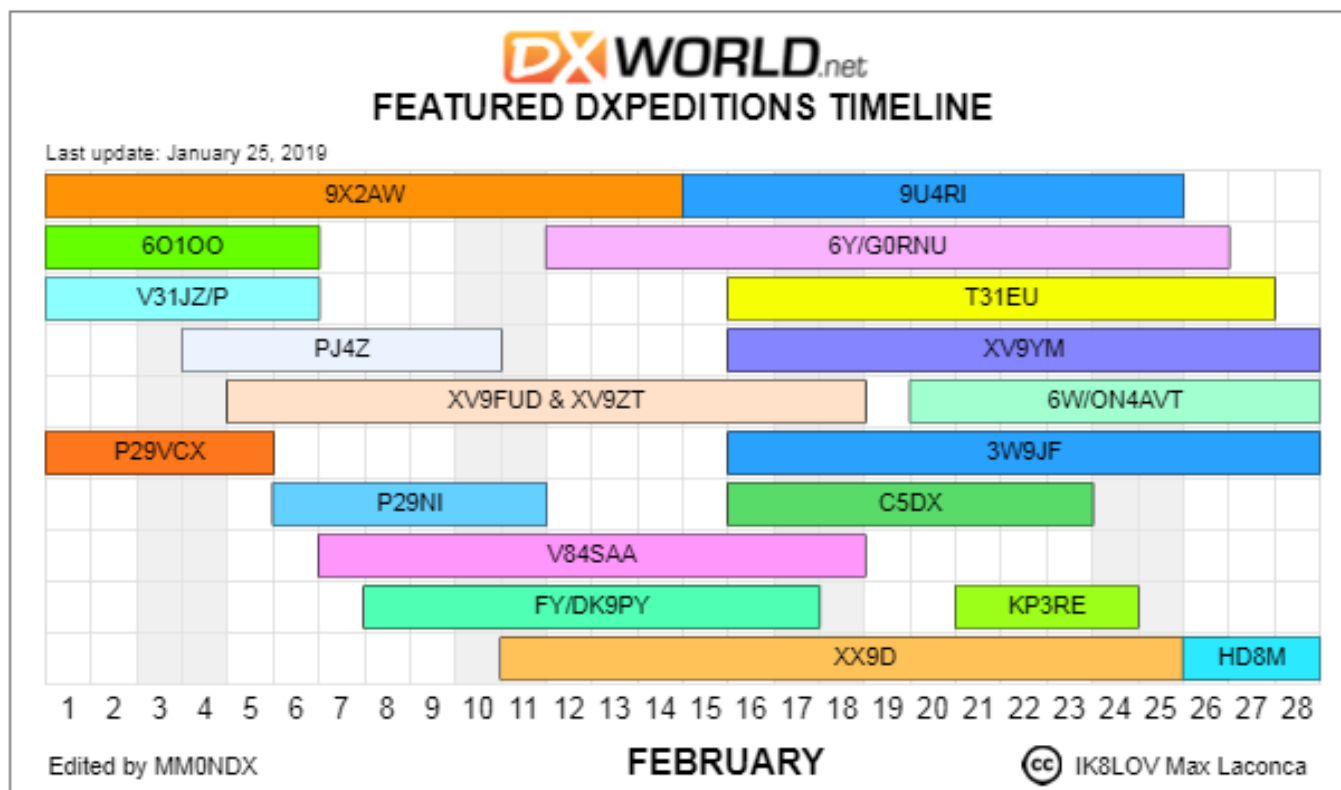
Hugh Casidy



Credit R6DHA

Upcoming DX

Credit to DX World



Livonia Swap & Shop

The Livonia (Michigan) Amateur Radio Club (<http://www.livoniaarc.com>) is having their Swap & Shop on Sunday, February 17, 2019 from 8am till noon at the Livonia Seniors Center 15218 Farmington Road Livonia, MI 48154. Our swap flier is attached. More information can be found :

<http://www.livoniaarc.com/index.php?page=swapshop>

HC—Ecuador

HC1MD, Dr. Rick Dorsh, planned to start his current operation January 18 and continue to February 7. He plans to go portable from other places in Ecuador too. He will be adding to his digital DXCC totals on this trip with his FT-857, 100 watts, operating on 40-6 CW, SSB and FT8, no 60 meters. He has a Windom, 6M Moxon, and Outbacker vertical. QSL via K8LJG, plus he will do a LoTW upload after the trip. Rick's home call is NE8Z.

Thanks Daily DX for the tidbit

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

Start Date	End Date	DXCC Entity	Call	QSL via	Reported by
2019					
January					
2019 Jan05	2019 Feb02	Seychelles	S79AA [spots]	LotW	TDDX 20171213
2019 Jan08	2019 Feb02	St Lucia	J6 [spots]	LotW	TDDX 20190121
2019 Jan12	2019 Jan31	Myanmar	XZ2B [spots]	JE2QIZ Direct	DXNews 20190112
2019 Jan13	2019 Jan31	Panama	H33J [spots]	LotW	HP3AK 20190104
2019 Jan14	2019 Jan31	Guadeloupe	FG [spots]	F6ITD	TDDX 20171213
2019 Jan15	2019 Feb04	Barbados	8P9CA [spots]	LotW	TDDX 20171226
2019 Jan17	2019 Feb14	Peru	OA [spots]	LotW	TDDX 20190121
2019 Jan18	2019 Feb07	Ecuador	HC1MD [spots]	LotW	K8LJG 20190114
2019 Jan18	2019 Feb14	Rwanda	9X2AW [spots]	LotW	TDDX 20181031
2019 Jan21	2019 Feb06	Somalia	6O1OO [spots]	EP3CQ	DXW.Net 20190114
2019 Jan22	2019 Jan30	Aruba	P4 [spots]	LotW	DL4MM 20190101
2019 Jan22	2019 Feb13	Philippines	DU3 [spots]	LotW	TDDX 20190123
2019 Jan29	2019 Feb04	Guam	KH2 [spots]	LotW	DXNews 20190128
2019 Jan29	2019 Feb07	Mauritius	3B8VB [spots]	UA4WHX	TDDX 20190129

Editors NOTE:

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

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2019 Jan31	2019 Feb06	Belize	V31JZ/p	NN7A	NN7A 20190103
2019 Jan31	2019 Feb05	Papua New Guinea	P29VCX	Club Log	DXNews 20180914
February					
2019 Feb01	2019 Feb28	Turks & Caicos	VP5VMA	Club Log	DXW.Net 20190130
2019 Feb02	2019 Feb13	Costa Rica	TI5	LotW	AA1M 20181208
2019 Feb04	2019 Feb16	Grenada	J3	LotW	TDDX 20190121
2019 Feb04	2019 Feb10	Bonaire	PJ4	LotW	TDDX 20181228
2019 Feb04	2019 Feb18	Vietnam	XV9	LotW	TDDX 20181224
2019 Feb06	2019 Feb11	Papua New Guinea	P29NI	Club Log	DXNews 20180914
2019 Feb07	2019 Feb18	Brunei	V84SAA	TBA	TDDX 20181221
2019 Feb08	2019 Feb11	Svalbard	JW1QH	LA1QH	DXNews 20190122
2019 Feb08	2019 Feb17	French Guiana	FY	DK9PY	DXW.Net 20190127
2019 Feb09	2019 Feb21	Greenland	OX	SM3UQK	DXW.Net 20190127
2019 Feb10	2019 Feb15	Sint Maarten	PJ7	LotW	OPDX 20190127
2019 Feb11	2019 Feb25	St Kitts & Nevis	V47KA	LotW	K1KA 20181115
2019 Feb11	2019 Feb26	Macao	XX9D	LotW	TDDX 20180829

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2019 Feb12	2019 Feb19	Dominica	J79	N4USA	DXW.Net 20190126
2019 Feb12	2019 Feb26	Jamaica	6Y	eQSL	DXW.Net 20190112
2019 Feb15	2019 Feb17	Ogasawara	JD1BLY	JI5RPT	JI5RPT 20190106
2019 Feb15	2019 Feb18	Monaco	3A	LotW	TDDX 20190109
2019 Feb15	2019 Feb25	Burundi	9U4RI	M0KRI Di- rect	DXNews 20181130

[ARRL International DX Contest, CW \(Feb 16-17, 2019\) Check here for pericon-](#)

2019 Feb16	2019 Feb23	Gambia	C5DX	LotW	G4DJX 20190104
2019 Feb16	2019 Mar05	Central Kiribati	T31EU	LotW	PA3EWP 20181016
2019 Feb16	2019 Mar18	Vietnam	XV9YM	LotW	DXNews 20190116
2019 Feb17	2019 Feb22	Cape Verde Is	D44TAQ	LotW	OPDX 20190127
2019 Feb17	2019 Mar05	Martinique	FM	DK9PY	DXW.Net 20190127
2019 Feb18	2019 Feb23	Ecuador	HC5MWT	LotW	425DXN 20190126
2019 Feb19	2019 Mar06	Vietnam	3W9JF	EA5GL Direct	DXW.Net 20190111
2019 Feb20	2019 Mar30	Senegal	6W7	ON4AVT	TDDX 20181220
2019 Feb22	2019 Feb24	Puerto Rico	KP3RE	LotW	KP4RV 20181114
2019 Feb22	2019 Mar10	Guadeloupe	FG	F6HMQ	TDDX 20190109
2019 Feb23	2019 Mar02	Belize	V31GF	LotW	TDDX 20190128
2019 Feb23	2019 Mar10	New Caledonia	FK	LotW	TDDX 20190129

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2019 Feb27	2019 Mar06	Galapagos	HD8M	LotW	DXNews 20180921
2019 Feb28	2019 Mar08	Turks & Caicos	VP5	LotW	DXNews 20190121
March					
2019 Mar01	2019 Mar15	Cayman Is	ZF2CA	G4CWH Direct	OPDX 20181217
ARRL International DX Contest, Phone (Mar 2-3, 2019) Check here for pericon-					
2019 Mar03	2019 Mar30	Sint Maarten	PJ7AA	AA9A	DXNews 20181204
2019 Mar08	2019 Mar16	Bahamas	C6AKT	LotW	DXNews 20181130
2019 Mar08	2019 Mar16	Lesotho	7P8LB	M0OXO	DXW.Net 20190130
2019 Mar10	2019 Mar16	Vietnam	XV9JK		DXW.Net 20190119
2019 Mar11	2019 Mar27	Juan Fernandez	XROZRC	LotW	DXNews 20190106
2019 Mar13	2019 Mar25	Uganda	5X0T	LotW	TDDX 20190125
2019 Mar14	2019 Mar22	South Cook Is	E51HMK	LotW	TDDX 20180622
2019 Mar14	2019 Mar26	Togo	5V7EI	LotW	DXW.Net 20181230
2019 Mar14	2019 Mar30	Curacao	PJ2	LotW	DK5ON 20181209
2019 Mar16	2019 Apr06	Vietnam	3W9JF	F6CTF Direct	DXW.Net 20190111
2019 Mar19	2019 Apr02	Niue	E6ET	Club Log	DXW.Net 20180603
CQ WPX Contest, SSB (Mar 30-31, 2019) Check here for pericontest activity too.					
April					
2019 Apr14	2019 Apr20	Djibouti	J20DX/p	LotW	DXW.Net 20181231

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2019 Apr15	2019 Apr22	American Samoa	KH8	LotW	DXW.Net 20190101
2019 Apr17	2019 Apr25	Burkina Faso	XT2MAX	LotW	DK1MAX 20181201
2019 Apr21	2019 Apr28	South Cook Is	E51DLD	W6HB	DXW.Net 20190128
2019 Apr21	2019 May03	French Polynesia	FO	LotW	OPDX 20180827
May					
2019 May03	2019 May05	Fiji	3D2AS	M0OXO	G0VJG 20181226
2019 May06	2019 May20	Wallis & Futuna	FW	M0OXO	G0VJG 20181226
2019 May07	2019 May14	St Vincent	J88PI	GW4DVB	DXNews 20180831
2019 May20	2019 May22	Fiji	3D2AS	M0OXO	G0VJG 20181226
2019 May20	2019 Jun19	Guatemala	TG9BBV	LotW	TDDX 20181128
2019 May25	2019 Jun01	Luxembourg	LX	LotW	GM0OBX 20181008
June					
2019 Jun23	2019 Jun25	Cayman Is	ZF2CJ	LotW	AB2RF 20190119
2019 Jun25	2019 Jul02	Saba & St Eustatius	PJ5	W9DR Direct	W9DR 20181228
2019 Jun26	2019 Jun28	Jamaica	6Y3Y	LotW	AB2RF 20190119
August					
2019 Aug01	2019 Aug31	St Paul	CY9C	LotW	WA4DAN 20180819