



Long Path



Volume 37 Issue 4

SEMDXA NEWSLETTER

April 2019



Pres Sez

Lots of things going on. Here are three that you may be interested in:

1. South Orkney Island (AN-008). The Perseverance DX Group (pdxg.net) who did the VP6D Ducie Island 2018 Dxpedition, has announced a new expedition to South Orkney which is scheduled for Feb/March 2020. They plan to operate for 15 days based on Signy Island. ClubLog has this location listed at #16. We have it much farther down our list.

2. Larry (K8UT) and Steve (N8AR) had a nice review of their Mortty Morse Code and RTTY Keying Interface Kit done in the April issue of QST. You can also check out the kit at their website

hamprojects.info/mortty/. \$18 (Wow!)

3. The group headed to Bouvet Island is under way as of this writing. Hopefully, by the time you read this they will be there. Currently entering the "roaring forties" with 8-10 meter waves (for you Americans that is 26-33 feet) This is the area where the round the world sailors tend to lose things like their mast or keel. Best of luck!

Don't forget the Michigan QSO party on April 20-21. Also Stan, Lee and the gang will be on Bermuda for the CQ WW WPX SSB contest They will be operating as home calls/VP9 from March 29 to April 2nd. Lets all try and give them a call.

73,

Bob, K8RGM

Calendar

NEXT Meeting:

NEW DAY

2nd THURSDAY

April 11, 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 Apr 11:

Rick, NE8Z and his HC1MD
FT8 Operation from Equador

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**, 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 March 2019

- * Meeting called to order by Bob K8RGM, president at 7:01pm 03/14/2019
- * Roll Call by voice. 22 members in attendance
- * Treasury Report presented by Brad N8SNM
- * motion to approve by Doug N8VY and 2nd by Roger NJ2R and approved by unanimous vote.
- * Minutes as posted in Long Path
- * motion to approve by Mike WD8S and 2nd by Steve K8QKY and approved by unanimous vote.

Old Business

- * The secretary, Doug N8VY, was not able to attend last months meeting. Thanks to the people that stepped up and filled the responsibilities for meeting minutes and handling the A/V equipment. Al K8SIX took the big screen and brought it to the March meeting and set it up even though he was too sick to stay for the meeting. Thank you Al.

New Business

- * President Bob K8RGM presented a request for donations from the Pitcairn Island Dxpediton group during October 2019 for consideration. After a discussion by the membership, it was determined they do not meet the SEMDXA requirements for a donation from our treasury and the membership also did not

support a 'pass the hat' donation.

- * The 50/50 drawing was won by Doug N8VY.
- * Stan AC8W announced the April and May programs and the June Officer elections. Please consider supporting SEMDXA and running for an office.
- * Stan AC8W introduced Tom K8BKM with his presentation on his Dxpediton to Martinique for ARRL DX contest in February 2019. Tom did really well for his first solo Dxpediton and exceeded his goal in QSOs.
- * Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm by motion by Jay WB8SBI and 2nd by Doug N8VY and appreciated by all.

DXCC News

Recently there was a name change for Z3 - Macedonia, which used to be called the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The new name is North Macedonia. The ADIF country code number remains 502. There will be no changes, other than the name, as to the DXCC status of Z3. There remains 340 countries/entities on the ARRL DXCC (current) List.

Credit - Bernie's DX Weekly

Ham radio to feature in MagPi magazine

RaspberryPi magazine MagPi will feature articles on Amateur Radio Projects in issue 80, available for Free download from March 28. The Raspberry Pi computer board has long been a favourite with radio amateurs who have used it for a diverse range of activities such as Slow Scan TV, Satellite Tracking, Digital ATV, VHF FM and HF SSB. It is not yet known which projects will be featured in MagPi but be sure to keep an eye out for issue 80. You can follow MagPi magazine on Twitter at [Free PDF of the current MagPi, issue 79, is available at MagPi Web Site](#)

BOUVET IS POSTPONED !

Yes. Postponed. The ship transporting the TEAM to Bouvet suffered damage to its navigation system and is returning to South Africa for a refit. Those Poles are stubborn. They will return! Read their latest official communique....

“And yet! After dramatic events earlier today, the captain of the MV Atlantic Tuna had to take a difficult but responsible decision to take a course back to Cape Town, South Africa. But the 3YØI Expedition

is NOT cancelled

– we don't give up that easily

I just had a long conversation with Dom 3Z9DX on board on the MV Atlantic Tuna. The seas calmed down enough to let them do a proper technical inspection of damages caused by the severe cyclonic storm last night. Here are more details on the latest dramatic events.

On March 26, 2019, the vessel had been approaching a cyclonal storm wandering nearby Bouvet Island. The captain analyzed the latest weather reports indicating a chance to break through the storm – it hadn't been that strong at that time. Unfortunately, the storm developed and intensified in a matter of an hour. Around 5-6 o'clock GMT, just 70 nautical miles off Bouvet island, the ship has been hit by a series of 11+ meters (36+ ft) tall waves + wind exceeding 83 knots/h (approx.

83 knots/h (approx. 160 km/h). The fierce oceanic forces swept past the upper deck, taking one of the radars, including VSAT, VHF and HF marine antennas, off the mast and throwing them all overboard. The hit was so hard the vessel tilted as much as 45° (but that's still safe in terms of the vessel's construction).

EACH AND EVERY TEAM / CREW MEMBER IS FINE, FEELING OK AND SAFE!

With lack of the most important navigational tools, the captain declared it's not safe to navigate and they need to go back to Cape Town to secure both all participants on the board, their equipment and the vessel's gear. In addition, all forecasts for coming hours are not positive. The Team totally relies on the captain's decisions – he has more than 20 years of sailing experience in similar areas on both hemispheres. The Team did not try to push things forward and they all followed the captain's order and agreed it's better to postpone plans for safety reasons.

The ship is now heading back for Cape Town, South Africa, and once back it will go through a process of all necessary repairs and technical inspections. Once the Team estimates the necessary time to fix everything at the ship, another decision will be taken: to return to Bouvetøya in yet April, or to postpone the expedition for next coming season. Nevertheless...Regardless of the final outcome of our attempts, it's clear that activating Bouvet Island is one of the most difficult and the most dangerous undertakes of the ham radio – and not only – history. Yet, the 3YØI's events will be long discussed and analyzed by the Team to “attack” the island one more time – as soon as possible – again all marked with “safety-first” principles.

Cont'd

The Team has dedicated more than 4 months living in Cape Town, right next to the vessel, to prepare things in person. We have sacrificed Christmas time and spent that special time without our families. And yet, have spent an enormous amount of our private funds to make it all happen for the ham radio's sake. But we don't give up, and we all know we gained your trust in our current and future ham radio attempts. We really appreciate that!

Until now, Bouvet Island vs. Hams 2:0! But that's just the first half of the show. Long live the ham radio legacy and its supporters!

Stan SP8S
The 3YØI Press officer"

The above was taken from their website at:

[Bouvet website](#)

SO. Stayed tuned. Third time is a charm so they say.

VK9/N - Norfolk Is

A heads up from VK3KTT: the ops arrived and set up an inverted-L for 160 and a few other antennas. They are there for two weeks with a very good FT8 op, VK3BDX, David and VK3HJ, Luke, on 160 and CW. Also, there is VK2PN, Patrick, very good on CW, and VK3QB, Chris doing CW and SSB, so lots of good activity is expected. They have a Facebook site too: <https://www.facebook.com/VI9NI/>. Also, they have found their 6M beam "so we might be in luck if we get some prop." QSL via VK2CA.

Credit—Bernie DX Weekly

THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY

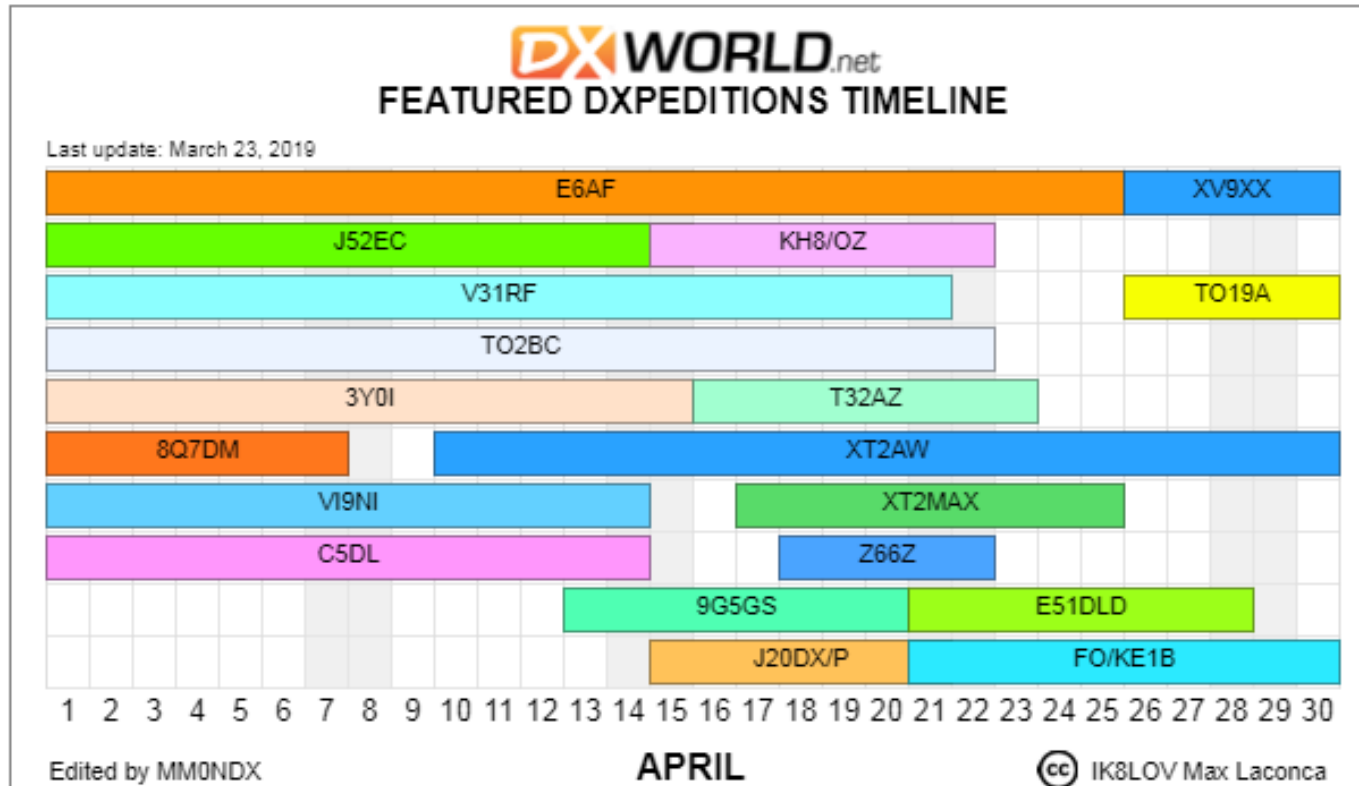
Can man experience such exquisite pain as the stinging hurt caused by missing a new one? Being beat out in the pile-up for a native DX station who is fairly active is bad enough, but when a DXpedition goes by without once entering our call in his log, it is a catastrophe. Our one big chance and we blew it! Missing out like this is intolerable not just for the missed opportunity to increase one's DXCC standing. It also brings into question such sacred cows as our operating ability, antenna efficiency, hilltop QTH, and individual worthiness. The loss of prestige felt by such an unfortunate soul goes far beyond his DXCC total; it is entirely personal. The pain, of course, is proportional to the number of fellow club members who got through successfully. Apparently WA6AUD has first hand exposure to pain of this genre.

The above is excerpted from "DX IS" and reflects on my early days (your Long Path editor) of chasing DX. There was more than one that got away in my early days. I suspect that Joe Taylor, K1JT (author of JT65 and FT8) was tired of missing big DX as well. That's why he invented FT8. His DX total is now climbing effortlessly (with the help of his computer)

I was talking with one of my fellow Canadian hams that plays in the VHF/UHF contests. He said he ran dual instances of JT8 and logging software which transmitted on even and odd minute segments and then walked away. He came back later to see how his computer made out in the contest. The final results are pending!

Upcoming DX

Credit to DX World



Michigan QSO Party

Check out the Mad River Radio Club web page for the rules and other info re the QSO Party.

<http://www.miqp.org/>

Don't forget. It's on

April 20 to 21st, 2019

FOR SALE

Your editor has a Mosely PRO-57B for sale. Asking \$700 All hardware included. Not totally disassembled, but comes in manageable chunks. Can deliver.

Al, K8SIX still has estate items from Bob, K8VfV's estate. Give Al a call to see what's left.

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

Start Date	End Date	DXCC Entity	Call	QSL via	Reported by
2019					
April					
2019 Apr01	2019 Apr07	Maldives	8Q7DM [spots]	SP3DX	DXW.Net 20190307
2019 Apr01	2019 Apr14	Norfolk I	V19NI [spots]	VK4FW	DXW.Net 20190204
2019 Apr01	2019 Apr15	Gambia	C5DL [spots]	LoTW	DL7DF 20190304
2019 Apr01	2019 Apr22	St Kitts & Nevis	V47JA [spots]	LoTW	W5JON 20190228
2019 Apr02	2019 Apr11	South Cook Is	E51	Home Call	DXW.Net 20190215
2019 Apr06	2019 Apr13	Liechtenstein	HB0	PE1FLO	TDDX 20190318
2019 Apr07	2019 Apr26	Burkina Faso	XT2AW	M0OXO	TDDX 20181031
2019 Apr13	2019 Apr14	Djibouti	J20NT	EA3NT	DXNews 20190327
2019 Apr13	2019 Apr14	Market Reef	OJ0W	OH3WS	TDDX 20190319
2019 Apr13	2019 Apr20	Ghana	9G5GS	IZ4YGS Direct	TDDX 20190318
2019 Apr14	2019 Apr22	Iceland	TF	LoTW	TDDX 20190206
2019 Apr16	2019 Apr21	Djibouti	J20DX	LoTW	DXW.Net 20181231
2019 Apr16	2019 Apr22	American Samoa	KH8	LoTW	425DXN 20190315
2019 Apr16	2019 Apr23	East Kiribati	T32AZ	KH6QJ	DXNews 20190308
2019 Apr17	2019 Apr25	Burkina Faso	XT2MAX	LoTW	DK1MAX 20181201
2019 Apr18	2019 Apr22	Kosovo	Z66Z	LoTW	TDDX 20190322

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 NEW Apr21	2019 Apr28	South Cook Is	E51DLD	W4HB	DXW.Net 20190128
2019 Apr21	2019 May03	French Polyne- sia	FO	LoTW	OPDX 20180827
2019 Apr27	2019 May04	Vietnam	XV9XX	LoTW	TDDX 20190308
2019 Apr27	2019 May08	Reunion	TO19A		TDDX 20190226
2019 Apr28	2019 May04	Ogasawara	JD1BMH	JD1BMH Buro	TDDX 20190401
2019 Apr30	2019 May05	Jersey	GJ6EFW	ON6EF	TDDX 20190228
May					
2019 May01	2019 May01	Belize	V31D	LoTW	TDDX 20190401
2019 May02	2019 May02	Honduras	HQ9D	LoTW	TDDX 20190401
2019 May03	2019 May03	Cayman Is	ZF2D	LoTW	TDDX 20190401
2019 May02	2019 May05	Fiji	3D2AS	M0OXO	G0VJG 20181226
2019 May04	2019 May11	Market Reef	OJ3W	OH3WS	TDDX 20190319
2019 May05	2019 May11	Peru	OA	LoTW	TDDX 20190322
2019 May06	2019 May15	St Vincent	J88PI	GW4DV B Direct	TDDX 20190211
2019 May07	2019 May14	St Vincent	J88PI	GW4DV B	DXNews 20180831
2019 May08	2019 May22	Wallis & Fu- tuna	FW	M0OXO	G0VJG 20181226
2019 May11	2019 May16	Fiji	3D2	KD7WPJ	KD7WPJ 20190308
2019 May13	2019 May19	Vietnam	XV9BO	LoTW	TDDX 20190319

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2019 May20	2019 May22	Fiji	3D2AS	M0OXO	G0VJG 20181226
2019 May20	2019 Jun19	Guatemala	TG9BBV	LoTW	TDDX 20181128
CQ WPX Contest, CW (May 25-26, 2019) Check here for pericontest activity too.					
2019 May25	2019 Jun01	Luxembourg	LX	LoTW	GM0OBX 20181008
2019 May25	2019 Jun14	Dodecanese	SV5	LoTW	TDDX 20190325
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
July					
RSGB IOTA Contest (Jul 27-28, 2019) Check here for pericontest activity too.					
August					
2019 Aug03	2019 Aug17	Madagascar	5R8PX	LoTW	20190321
September					
2019 Sep02	2019 Sep09	Fiji	3D2	DD0VR	DE3BWR 20180830
2019 Sep09	2019 Sep16	Samoa	5W	DD0VR	DE3BWR 20180830
2019 Sep15	2019 Sep30	eSwatini	3DA0AO	HA5AO Direct	DXNews 20190325
2019 Sep16	2019 Sep21	Tonga	A35JY	DD0VR	DE3BWR 20180830
2019 Sep20	2019 Oct03	Crete	SV9	LoTW	TDDX 20190301
2019 Sep23	2019 Sep27	Fiji	3D2	DD0VR	DE3BWR 20180830
2019 Sep24	2019 Oct06	Tonga	A35JT	LoTW	DXW.Net 20181218

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2019 Sep24	2019 Oct08	St Pierre & Mi- quelon	FP	LoTW	TDDX 20181128
CQ WW DX Contest, RTTY (Sep 28-29, 2019) Check here for pericontest activity					
October					
2019 Oct01	2019 Oct15	Lesotho	7P8AO	HA5AO Direct	DXNews 20190325
2019 Oct01	2019 Oct15	Tokelau	ZK3X	LoTW	DXW.Net 20181217
2019 Oct10	2019 Oct28	North Cook Is	E51GC	LoTW	DXNews 20190313
2019 Oct18	2019 Nov01	Pitcairn I	VP6R	TBA	OPDX 20181217
2019 Oct30	2019 Nov15	West Kiribati	T30GC	LoTW	DXNews 20190313
November					
2019 Nov12	2019 Nov29	Cocos Keeling	VK9CZ	N3SL	DXNews 20190313
2019 Nov17	2019 Nov30	Vietnam	XV9D	LoTW	SM6LRR 20190114
CQ WW DX Contest, CW (Nov 23-24, 2019) Check here for pericontest activity					
2020					
February					
2020 Feb21	2020 Mar05	South Orkney Is	VP8	LoTW	K5GS 20190316