



# Long Path



Volume 37 Issue 5

SEMDXA NEWSLETTER

May 2019



## Pres Sez

In case you missed it from ARRL and you are thinking about getting into FT8 and you are a contester.....hold on to your hats.....a contest version is on the way.....FT4. From what I have been able to read it is about three times faster than FT8. It has been tested on a very limited basis and is ready for a larger group test. In fact, if you are interested you can check it out at:

<http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/FT4>.....

Just put that much in and you should bring it up. They do want feedback.

(editor's inclusion - check out the video at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Pd7zB40xdY> )

Next Subject.....Elections in June.....It is time to start thinking about how you can support your club. A lot of you have held offices in the past. That is not a reason for not stepping forward again. This is a small club and everyone should be thinking about what they can do to keep it going. So much for the lecture.....just give it some thought.

73

Bob, K8RGM

## DAYTON HAMVENTION

Don't forget to make your banquet reservations whether for Contest, or Top Band, or AMSAT... Contest University is on Thursday. It all starts Thursday, May 16 and ends on Sunday May 19. See you there!

## Calendar

**NEXT Meeting:**

# NEW DAY

**2nd THURSDAY**

**May 9, 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 May 9:

Bermuda, VP9 by N8LJ, KB8TXF and AC8R

### 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 April 2019

- Meeting called to order by Bob K8RGM, president at 7:10pm 04/11/2019
- Roll Call by voice. 24 members in attendance
- Treasury Report presented by Brad N8SNM
- motion to approve by Jay WB8SBI and 2nd by Lee N8LJ and approved by unanimous vote.
- Minutes as posted in Long Path
- motion to approve by Jim KB8TXZ and 2nd by Steve K8QKY and approved by unanimous vote.

#### Old Business

- None

#### New Business

- We have club officer elections at the June meeting. Please consider running for office and supporting the club. All members not attending will be considered for unfilled offices. Probably, the hot contention for the honor to serve will not leave any positions open of course.
- Chet VE3CFK read an article about the planned second attempt at a Bouvet Island DXpedition 3Y0Z which discussed the need to re-invent the ways to finance future DXpeditions that incur large expense. The costs are becoming too great for the past methods of the participants providing large amounts which may not be covered by donations that come in after the fact. We can expect QSL to become more expensive to cover these short falls. The article was written by Martti Laine, OH2BH. <http://www.arrl.org/news/3y0i-dxpedition-team-reports-it-has-departed-for-bouvet-island> <https://www.rebeldxgroup.com/>
- The 50/50 drawing was won by Stan AC8W and collected by Trish KA8AMX.

· Al, K8SIX offered additional estate items from Bob K8VFX estate. Some cheap as a donation to SEMDXA and some even free for the taking.

· Marsha N8FE suggested someone take over getting SEMDXA shirts. Bob Crawford K8VFX was the person doing that in the past. It was asked how many people were interested in a shirt presently and there were three people. We probably can not get a price break or free shipping at that level. Marsha will provide Chet information to place in the 'LongPath' newsletter such that individuals can order shirts directly.

· Stan AC8W introduced Rick NE8Z with his presentation on his 50 years of Dxing in Ecuador. This year was a very intense FT8 operation culminating in 5,678 QSOs. He also found time for other fun activities including visiting the land Rick HC1MD and XYL Maria HC1MM bought for their future Ecuadorian beach front home.

· Meeting adjourned at 8:52pm by motion by Jay WB8SBI and 2nd by Marsha N8FE and appreciated by all.

## RECALL !

### Honda Portable Generators Recalled Due to Potential Fire Hazard

American Honda has announced that it is voluntarily recalling some 200,000 of its portable generators sold in the US due to a potential fire and burn hazard. The recall includes the EU2200i, EU2200i Companion, and EB2200i generators. The US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) says the affected portable generators can leak gasoline from the fuel valve.

Users should stop operating the recalled generator and contact an authorized Honda dealer for a free repair. Honda is also contacting users directly. For more information, visit the CPSC website.

## MORE on FT8

First there was JT65

Then there was FT8

Now there is FT4

Next is FT0 ... where all you have to do is insert your call sign and you automatically get DXCC, WAS, WAC, Worked all of Canada, 10BDXCC ...

## From Visalia, CA

The Intrepid-DX Group is pleased to announce the recipient of the annual "Intrepid Spirit Award". We are pleased to have received so many worthy nominations to consider.

This year's award goes to a notable Dixer and Dxpeditioner that we have come to respect and admire greatly, Mr. Kenneth Opskar-LA7GIA.

This award is to recognize Ken's outstanding efforts to activate Malawi-7Q7GIA, Comoros-D67GIA, Equatorial Guinea-3C7A, Central African Republic-TL8AO, Congo-TN5E, Somalia-6O6O and Chad as TT8KO. We recognize Ken's unselfish acts to activate these challenging and much needed entities on behalf of a grateful Global DX Community.

We acknowledge Ken's pursuit of operating excellence in making these difficult activations. It is for these reasons that we honored him with our Intrepid Spirit Award, presented at the International DX Convention, Visalia, California on April 12th, 2019.

This "Intrepid-Spirit Award" is made in memory of our fallen friend and member, James McLaughlin, T6AF who was killed in Kabul, Afghanistan in April, 2011.

The award is intended to recognize and honor those individuals or teams that boldly activate rare entities where their own personal safety is secondary to their pursuit of providing contacts to the DX Community. While we do not encourage Dixer's to go into harm's way, we recognize that circumstances sometimes require that and we recog-

nize that circumstances sometimes require that and we recognize those Intrepid Dixer's with the Intrepid Spirit Award.

Thank you,

Paul S. Ewing-N6PSE  
President & Founder  
The Intrepid-DX Group

## 3Y0I Bouvet Is.

The Rebel DX Group reports the 3Y0I team are safely back home. The license ready, equipment is in ZS and they are again going to attempt to go back to Bouvet Island "in the Fall". No mention of Fall in the northern or southern hemisphere.

[3Y0I Bouvet Island link](#)

## Propagation

Perhaps the most useful propagation pages for Amateur Radio Operators can be found at:

[Propagation Site 1](#)

[Propagation Site 2](#)

thanks Bernie, The Daily DX

## Local Hamfests

5/4/19	Cadillac	Cadillac, MI
5/5/18	Flying Beers Trunkswap	Ferndale, MI
5/17 to 19	Hamvention	Xenia, OH
6/1/19	Luce County	Newberry, MI
6/1/19	Princeton	Princeton, KY
6/1/19	IRA	Hudsonville, MI
6/1/19	Fulton County	Wauseon, OH
6/2/19	Chelsea	Chelsea, MI
6/8/19	Union County	Marysville, OH
6/15/19	Milford/SWODXA Conv	Milford, OH
6/15/19	Midland Hamfest	Midland, MI
6/16/19	Monroe	Monroe, MI

## SEMDXA Shirts

The company we have been dealing with has changed their website and ordering protocol. So receiving shirts in time for HamVention is not possible. Further discussion will be had at the May meeting as to path forward for obtaining shirts.

## VP8/o - South Orkney Island

The upcoming planned operation has gotten a \$30,000 grant from the NCDXF, the Northern California DX Foundation, toward the \$325,000 estimated expedition cost. Joining the team is NG2H, a former US Navy submariner. He was on the 2016 VK0EK Heard Island operation. Also added is WD5COV, who has 351 in the DXCC mixed standings who has been on many DXpeditions to rare ones. Severe weather tents have been bought and the fund-raising drive continues. So far donations have come from 19 clubs or foundations and 130 individuals. Expedition team members will be at the upcoming Dayton HamVention, Dallas Ham-Com, Ham Radio Friedrichshafen and the Pacific Northwest DX Convention. <https://eur04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fsorkney.com%2F&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cf48f7a7bd22140e128af08d6ccaf3b%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C636921452261691931&data=jkH6TwhqUrK%2FFYmXWIoQpGAr3%2B8K5flsvsJbZwrsqo%3D&reserved=0>

## Rumor Mill

Over the last week or so there has been a "rumor going around on social media that BS7 is pending deletion by the DXCC desk due to [a] Philippine claim. This is not the case and the DXCC Desk is not seeking to remove Scarborough Reef from the DXCC list.

Thanks Bernie, The Weekly DX

## DX IS!

Probably no DX station in history has been so thoroughly worked as Slim. Unfortunately, very few DXers can prove their QSO's with him, because Slim is a notoriously abominable QSLer.

You see, Slim is the generic name for phonies and bootleggers. He may take the call of a legitimate station and run up several hundred bogus QSO's, leaving the legitimate owner of the call sign to deal with the flood of QSLs. In his more creative form Slim simply makes up his call-sign, and, whether or not the chosen call-sign sounds believable, DXers will invariably pile-up to work him, ever hopeful that he will defy the odds and turn out to be true-blue.

How did these phonies get the name Slim? This name has been given in honor of an especially imaginative fellow who fired up as 8X8AA in the spring of 1968 giving his name as Slim and his QTH as Cray Island, "off the coast of Newfoundland". This slim was quite active for sometime during the summer, and he drew a respectable following. In fact, the station log at W5DV reveals a QSO with 8X8AA on May 30, 1968 at 1755Z. He sounded so reasonable that an "insurance" QSO did not seem necessary.

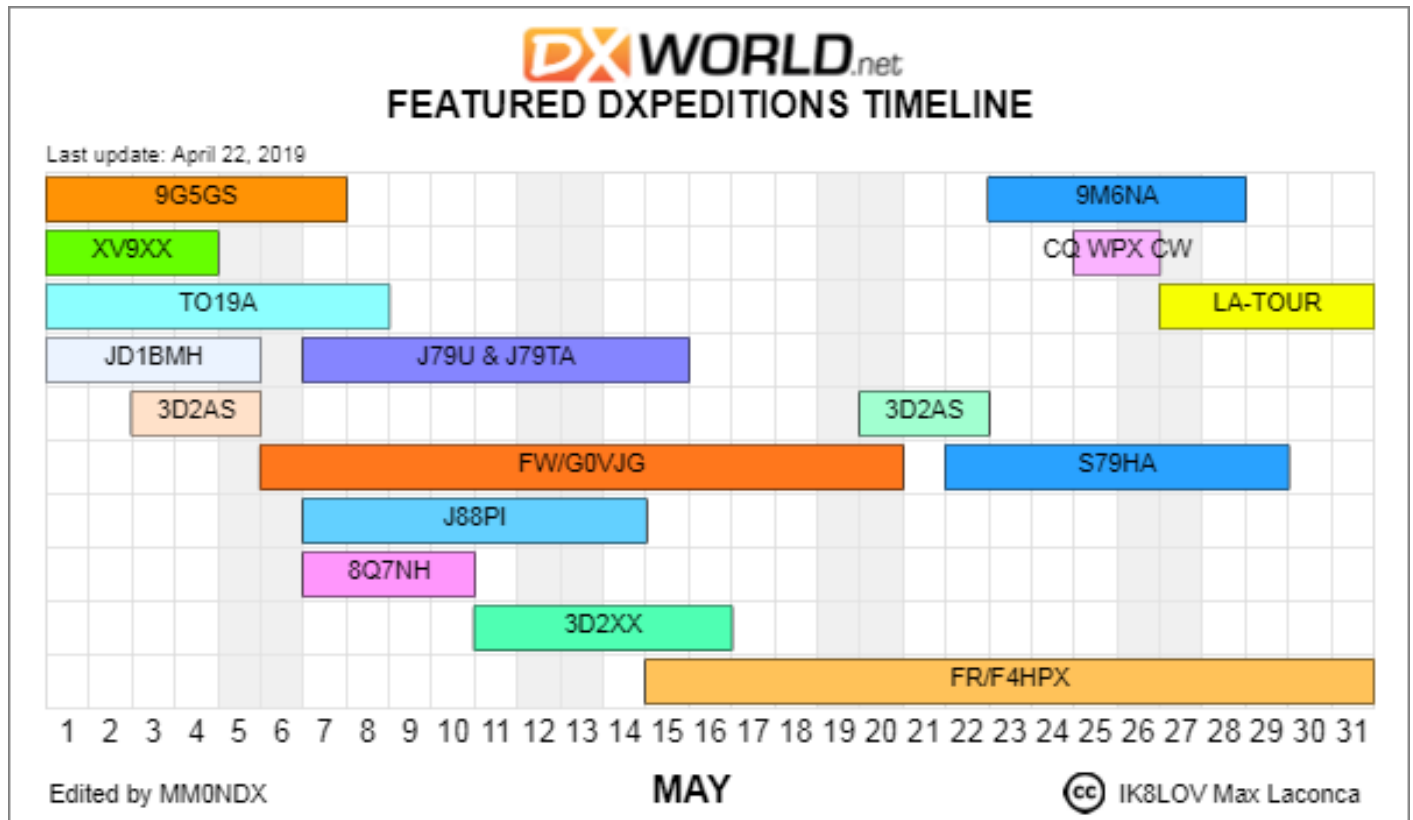
Imagine W5DV's disappointment to learn from Bob White, W1CW, at the 1968 ARRL Convention that the prefix 8X was assigned to India and that the Slim was simply another phoney! A lot of other DXers were similarly crushed. But as a tribute to the audacity and originality of this particular operation, DXers memorialized the fellow by giving his name to all pirates and phonies that followed.

The authors of "DX IS" first heard of this "honor" in the West Coast DX Bulletin, and whether its origin was a spontaneous creation on the DX bands or the work of WA6AUD, it is unknown.

.....continued on the next page

## Upcoming DX

## Credit to DX World



*DX IS!*

But that matters little, for the WCDXB popularized the term so effectively that the name Slim is now universally associated with bogus operations in whatever form they appear.

The above was extracted from "DX IS! The Best of the West Coast DX Bulletin". Thank you W5DV and W6OGC, editors of DX IS.

## DX Forum at HamVention

The HamVention in the Dayton (Xenia), Ohio, USA area is coming up in May. K4ZLE reports that the DX Forum will be Saturday from 11:25 AM to 1:50 PM, a change in times from recent years. It will be ahead of the Contest Forum. The W0AIH tribute is the last item on the DX Forum agenda, to lead into the Contest Forum. On this year's program are: Brunei, V84SAA by KO8SCA; VP6D, Ducie Island by K5GS, K3EL and W2LK; KH1/KH7Z by N1DG and K6TD; then "The Legacy of W0AIH, what can we carry forward?" by W0GJ. At the end of the DX Forum there will be a drawing for a transceiver donated by Yaesu.

## Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

Start Date	End Date	DXCC Entity	Call	QSL via	Reported by
<b>April</b>					
2019 Apr13	2019 May07	Ghana	<a href="#">9G5GS [spots]</a>	IZ4YGS Direct	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190318
2019 Apr21	2019 May03	French Polynesia	<a href="#">FO [spots]</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20180827
2019 Apr27	2019 May02	Market Reef	<a href="#">OJ3W [spots]</a>	OH3WS	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190319
2019 Apr27	2019 May04	Vietnam	<a href="#">XV9XX [spots]</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190308
2019 Apr27	2019 May08	Reunion	<a href="#">TO19A [spots]</a>	9A2AA	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190226
2019 Apr28	2019 May04	Ogasawara	<a href="#">JD1BMH [spots]</a>	JD1BMH Buro	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190401
2019 Apr30	2019 May05	Jersey	<a href="#">GJ6EFW [spots]</a>	ON6EF	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190228
<b>May</b>					
2019 May02	2019 May02	Honduras	<a href="#">HQ9D [spots]</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190401
2019 May02	2019 May05	Fiji	<a href="#">3D2AS [spots]</a>	M0OXO	G0VJG 20181226
2019 May02	2019 May12	Mongolia	<a href="#">JT [spots]</a>	R9YU Direct	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190424
2019 May03	2019 May03	Cayman Is	<a href="#">ZF2D</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190401
2019 May04	2019 May10	Isle of Man	<a href="#">GT3PYE /p</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190502
2019 May04	2019 May11	Haiti	<a href="#">HH6</a>	See Info	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190429
2019 May05	2019 May11	Peru	<a href="#">OA</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190322
2019 May06	2019 May15	St Vincent	<a href="#">J88PI</a>	GW4DV B Direct	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190211
2019 May07	2019 May10	Maldives	<a href="#">8Q7NH</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20190421

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 May07	2019 May14	St Vincent	J88PI	GW4DV B	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20180831
2019 May07	2019 May15	Dominica	J7	M0OXO	SM0CXU 20190419
2019 May08	2019 May22	Wallis & Futuna	FW	M0OXO	G0VJG 20181226
2019 May10	2019 May12	Luxembourg	LX8SAR	LX8SAR Buro	LX1KQ 20190416
2019 May11	2019 May16	Fiji	3D2	KD7WPJ	KD7WPJ 20190308
2019 May13	2019 May19	Vietnam	XV9BO	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190319
2019 May15	2019 Jun05	Reunion	FR		<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190417
2019 May20	2019 May22	Fiji	3D2AS	M0OXO	G0VJG 20181226
2019 May21	2019 Jun11	Guatemala	<a href="#">TG9BBV</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20181128
2019 May22	2019 May28	Aland Is	<a href="#">OG0C</a>	LoTW	OH5CW 20190502
2019 May22	2019 May29	Seychelles	S79HA	LoTW	HA7JTR 20190422
2019 May23	2019 May28	East Malaysia	<a href="#">9M6NA</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190410
2019 May24	2019 Jun13	Guatemala	TG9BBV	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20190422

[CQ WPX Contest, CW \(May 25-26, 2019\) Check here for pericontest ac-](#)

2019 May25	2019 Jun02	Georgia	4L9S	OE1ZKC	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190417
2019 May25	2019 Jun01	Luxembourg	LX	LoTW	GM0OBX 20181008
2019 May25	2019 Jun14	Dodecanese	SV5	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190325

## June

2019 Jun01	2019 Jun10	Samoa	5W	TBA	<a href="#">425DXN</a> 20190406
2019 Jun01	2019 Jun15	Vietnam	XV9DXB	EB7DX	HB9DXB 20190422

## Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2019 Sep16	2019 Sep21	<b>Tonga</b>	<b>A35JY</b>	DD0VR	DE3BWR 20180830
2019 Sep20	2019 Oct03	<b>Crete</b>	<b>SV9</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20190301
2019 Sep23	2019 Sep27	<b>Fiji</b>	<b>3D2</b>	DD0VR	DE3BWR 20180830
2019 Sep24	2019 Oct06	<b>Tonga</b>	<a href="#">A35JT</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20181218
2019 Sep24	2019 Oct08	<b>St Pierre &amp; Miquelon</b>	<a href="#">FP</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20181128

[CQ WW DX Contest, RTTY \(Sep 28-29, 2019\) Check here for pericontest](#)

2019 Sep28	2019 Oct11	<b>Liberia</b>	<a href="#">A82X</a>	LoTW	I2YSB 20190417
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### October

2019 Oct01	2019 Oct15	<b>Lesotho</b>	<b>7P8AO</b>	HA5AO Direct	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20190325
2019 Oct01	2019 Oct15	<b>Tokelau</b>	<a href="#">ZK3X</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20181217
2019 Oct10	2019 Oct28	<b>North Cook Is</b>	<b>E51GC</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20190313
2019 Oct18	2019 Nov01	<b>Pitcairn I</b>	<a href="#">VP6R</a>	TBA	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20181217
2019 Oct19	2019 Nov03	<b>Lakshadweep Is</b>	<b>VU7RI</b>	M0KRI Direct	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20190416

[CQ WW DX Contest, SSB \(Oct 26-27, 2019\) Check here for pericontest](#)

2019 Oct30	2019 Nov15	<b>West Kiribati</b>	<b>T30GC</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20190313
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### November

2019 Nov04	2019 Nov07	<b>Vanuatu</b>	<a href="#">YJORRC</a>	TBA	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20190403
2019 Nov06	2019 Nov19	<b>Marquesas</b>	<a href="#">TX</a>	LoTW	K4UEE 20190409
2019 Nov08	2019 Nov13	<b>Vanuatu</b>	<a href="#">YJORRC</a>	TBA	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20190403
2019 Nov12	2019 Nov29	<b>Cocos Keeling</b>	<a href="#">VK9CZ</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXNews</a> 20190313
2019 Nov14	2019 Nov20	<b>Vanuatu</b>	<a href="#">YJOFWA</a>	TBA	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20190403



## Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

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

## Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2019 Nov17	2019 Nov30	<b>Vietnam</b>	<b>XV9D</b>	LoTW	SM6LRR 20190114
CQ WW DX Contest, CW (Nov 23-24, 2019) <a href="#">Check here for pericontest</a>					
<b>2020</b>					
<b>February</b>					
2020 Feb21	2020 Mar05	<b>South Orkney Is</b>	<a href="#">VP8</a>	LoTW	K5GS 20190316