



Long Path



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SEM DXA NEWSLETTER

December 2019



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Map and directions

HOLIDAY PARTY

Lunch at the Lake

December 13

**11:00 AM sharp -
1:30 PM ?**

Great food and 807's

**Replaces the night
meeting**

Editors Ramblings

I just returned from Naples Florida. Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. I had treated our Naples friends to a Canadian cooked turkey to celebrate their American Thanksgiving. They were coveted by many of the locals and wondered how they could afford to have a Canadian Chef cook their turkey! lol

Christmas is coming. Hope Santa brings those DX band slot fills you are looking for or that new K4 or the FTdx-101D to fill that empty spot on your operating desk.

Many of the membership attended the November meeting and were treated to John, VE3EJ's excellent presentation on WRTC. Hope to have John back some time to talk about one of his past DXpeditions or his Canadian Contest Station.

This months meeting is the famous DX-luncheon at Zukey Lake to finish off the year with friends and DXers alike. Come toast the end of 2019 and the beginning of 2020 and hopefully the start of the next solar cycle.

**Till next year, SEASONS
GREETINGS and good DX.**

Calendar

NEXT Meeting:

NEW DAY

FRIDAY

December 13 2019

ZUKEY LAKE

Gathering starts at 10:30ish for coffee and leads into lunch starting at 11:00.

FIRST 2020 MEETING

January 9

SEM DXA OFFICERS

President: Robert Mueller, **K8RGM**

Vice-president: Al Bailey **K8SIX**

Treasurer: Brad Nowak, **N8SNM**

Secretary: Doug Basberg, **N8VY**

Program Director: Gerry Treas, **K8GT**
and Steve Culp, **K8QKY**

Directors: Ted, **K8NA**, Bob 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**

4U1UN

Info from 4U1UN, the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, the station was on the air for about an hour on Wednesday November 27, starting at 22Z. The ops note "more good things to come in [the] future now that the remote setup is working correctly."

3D2/R - Rotuma

3D2AG, Antoine, confirms the sailing date is set for December 14. He plans to be on the air December 17. He notes this will be cyclone season there, raising the chance of being stuck on Rotuma at the planned return date in mid-January. He also notes the need to take drums of diesel fuel, a heavy-duty generator and other gear so flying in is not an option this time. Antoine says the southern hemisphere 6M e-skip season has begun. He will have 6 meters on the air from Rotuma.

DUES Due

160M ZONE 2

Jeff, VY2ZM, and Miriam, VY2NA, will again be operating from ZONE 2 on 160m in order to try to give more stations in JAPAN and the PACIFIC Basin a chance for a QSO from ZONE 2 for their 160m WAZ 40 award. We will be QRV from 6 December - 12 December operating as VY2NA/VE2. They also plan other 160M activity when JA propagation not good.

WSJT-X

WSJT-X Development Group Announces Second Bug-Fix Release, WSJT-X Version 2.1.2

The WSJT Development Group, has now issued a second bug-fix release, version 2.1.2.

WSJT-X is the free software suite that includes the FT4 and FT8 protocols.

According to the developers, an error in the code broke the WSJT-X rig control features for certain Icom radios. The Release Notes detail program changes made since WSJT-X 2.1.0.

The WSJT-X 2.1 User Guide has also been updated. Upgrading from earlier versions of WSJT-X should be seamless, with no need to uninstall previous versions or move any files.

Installation packages for Windows, Linux, and Macintosh are available.

WSJT-X is licensed under the terms of Version 3 of the GNU General Public License (GPL).

-- arrl news

Black Friday Sale

Starting at 0000 UTC on November 28, ARRL will be offering a 10% discount on all applications for DX Century Club, Worked All States, and VHF/UHF Century Club awards and endorsements, including plaques, made through ARRL's Logbook of The World. (For WPX and WAZ, only award credits can be discounted as CQ Communications is the issuer of these awards.)

The 10% discount will be taken off the total charge. The discount is on total ARRL charges and includes 10% off shipping. The sale will run for 11 days and end at 2359 UTC on December 8.

-- arrl news

N1MM Logger+

N1MM Logger+ users participating in contests with contest-specific macro key definitions and call history files will find this week's program update very worthwhile. You won't have to manually download those files before contest start! [According to Larry, K8UT](#):

"This week's update includes a new feature in which N1MM+ will detect/download/install a file for you, rather than requiring you to separately open a browser, find the file and download it. I haven't updated the website documentation yet, but here's how it works:

For Call History Files and Sample Function Key Files:

In the >File >Open Log in Database dialog window, select the >Associated Files tab. Press the [CHANGE] button adjacent to the labels for Call History Filename or Function Key Filename.

If there is a file on the website that matches this contest name, a dialog window will open and ask whether you want to assign it to this contest. If you answer Yes, the file is downloaded and installed. If you answer No, a File Explorer window will open for you to choose a local file (the way N1MM+ has worked for years).

To prevent you from harm - for example, overwriting a Function Key .MC file that you customized with personal preferences - any existing file of the same name will be archived with a .BAK designation.

This feature should be popular with groups like CWOPS whose Call History file changes on a weekly basis." (via N1MM Logger+ group)

Oh, and N1MM Logger+ can now answer "Oui!" to "Parlez-vous Francais?" with the new French

OTH Radar

The latest International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 Monitoring System

([IARUMS](#)) [newsletter](#) reports the Russian "Contayner" over-the-horizon radar (OTHR) has been active in the 7, 10, 14, and 18 MHz amateur radio allocations (amateur radio is primary on 40, 20, and 17 meters). The OTHR transmissions have been 40 sweeps/second, FM on pulse, and 12 kHz wide.

Additionally, IARUMS reports a significant increase in Russian military traffic using F1B, PSK, and orthogonal frequency division multiplex (OFDM) on 40, 30, 20, and 15 meters.

IARUMS on November 13 reported an OTHR in northern Iran on 6.078 – 7.022 MHz, AM on pulse, 81 sweeps/second, 44 kHz wide

HAMFESTS

12/7/19	Fulton County	Delta, OH
1/19/20	SCARF Hamfest	Nelsonville, OH
1/19-20	Hazel Park	Madison Hgts, MI
1/26/20	Tusco	Strasburg, OH
2/1/20	HARA	Negaunee, MI
2/16/20	Mansfield	Mansfield, OH
2/23/20	Livonia	CANCELLED for 2020
3/7/20	Cave City	Cave City, KY
3/21/20	Gallipolis	Gallipolis, OH

The Livonia Amateur Radio Club reports that a venue conflict has caused the cancellation of the Livonia Swap planned for Feb. 23, 2020. The LARC Swap and Shop has traditionally been one of the well attended swaps in SE Michigan and we hope that 2021 will bring even a bigger and better LARC swap to that region.

HF Propagation

Propagation in 2018 Visualized on 11 Bands With FT8 Spots

I am happy to announce a new service which offers 18,000+ propagation charts for you to explore how signals propagated between two user-selected ITU zones in 2018. The raw spot dataset was received from HamSci, including approximately 8 billion FT8 spots that were collected from sources such as PSK Reporter during the entire year of 2018. There are data from 6 meters to 160 meters. The heavy-lifting, i.e. data processing (incl. pre-processing such as data validation) and data visualization for the charts, has been done by Alex Shovkoplyas, VE3NEA.

URL : <https://voacap.com/visualprop>

The charts show the scaled number of spots in different colors over the 24-hour period over the 12 months. Also plotted on the charts are the sunrise and sunset timelines, calculated for "the center of mass" of the callsigns in each ITU zone. This will make it easier, for example, to distinguish enhanced periods of propagation on low bands at sunrise/sunset, something which VOACAP is heavily underpredicting. Furthermore, on the top part of the charts, you will see the development of the planetary A index (A_p) over the year of 2018, and see how increased A_p indices will affect propagation - higher A_p indices are not always a sign of decreased conditions!

I think this unique set of charts will give the ham community all over the world new and surprising insights into HF propagation! If you have questions, please write to jpe@voacap.com.

by Jari Perkiomaki OH6BG

Bouvet Is

Things have been ominously quiet wrt Bouvet Is. Last I heard the DXpedition was looking for funding. Maybe they'll have a Christmas surprise announcement. Let's keep our fingers crossed.

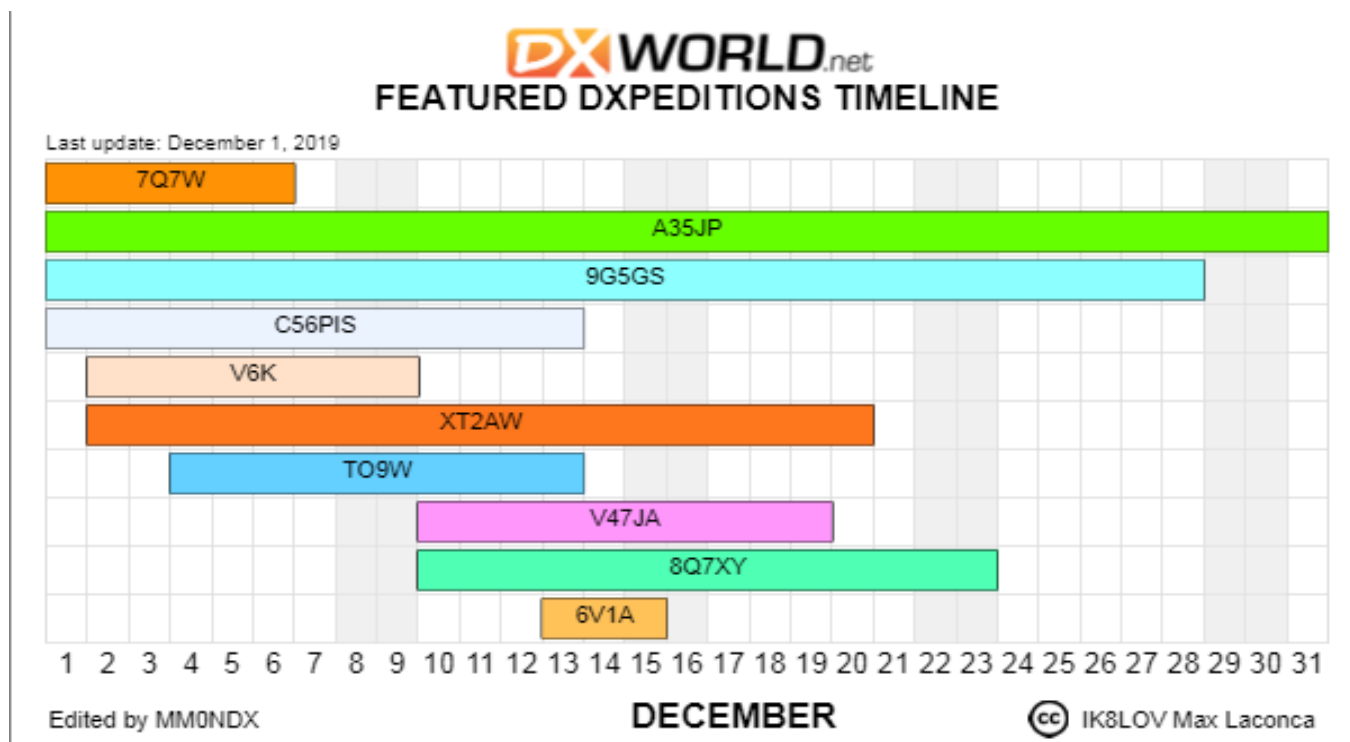
Palestine



Russian Robinsions team members plan their next expedition. This time they'll QRV from Palestine as E44RU with strong focus on low bands...

JD1 – Ogasawara Islands

JG7PSJ, Harry, has announced his plans for his next activation of JD1BMH. He will be QRV from December 22nd until January 3rd. Activity will be on CW, SSB and RTTY on 80 through 10 meters. He focus this trip will be to do antenna maintenance as his QTH suffered damage from the recent Hagibis and Bualoi Typhons. Watch for him on Twitter as he announces his activities live - @jg7psj.



W3LPL on FT8

Frank, W3LPL, posted this about FT8 to the [Topband email reflector](#): "Topband was fairly quiet tonight with the usual dozen or so European stations. I decided to try FT8 for the first time on Topband. I've used it for several years on 6 meters mostly during the Transatlantic sporadic-E season but never on Topband. Much to my surprise after just one CQ, I put a string of nearly one hundred European QSOs in my log in just a few hours. This is how 160 meter CW used to be 30 years ago. Almost all of these were first time QSOs for me, and nearly half were Russians. UN1L, UA9MA and R8CA were decoded but not worked."

VA3RD - SK

Bob Thompson, VA3RD became a silent key on November 14th. A celebration of life is planned for January 26th, 2020 at the Sarnia Yacht Club in Sarnia, ON.

Bob was a past president of SEMDXA in 1996/97

Present and upcoming DXpeditions

Start Date	End Date	DXCC Entity	Call	QSL via	Reported by
October					
2019 Oct01	2019 Dec15	Gabon	TR8CR [spots]	F6AJA	425DXN 20190920
2019 Oct10	2020 Oct22	Cape Verde Is	D44EA [spots]	OK7JR	TDDX 20191007
November					
2019 Nov12	2019 Dec25	Madagascar	5R [spots]	Home Call	TDDX 20190920
2019 Nov12	2019 Dec31	Thailand	HS0ZME [spots]	SM6NT Buro	TDDX 20191002
2019 Nov18	2019 Dec06	Malawi	7Q7W [spots]	DK2WV	DXNews 20191120
CQ WW DX Contest, CW (Nov 23-24, 2019) Check here for pericontest activity too.					
2019 Nov24	2019 Dec31	Tonga	A35JP [spots]	LoTW	JA0RQV 20191023
2019 Nov26	2019 Dec28	Ghana	9G5GS [spots]	LoTW	IZ4YGS 20191007
2019 Nov28	2019 Dec13	Gambia	C56PIS [spots]	SA6PIS	DXNews 20191105
December					
2019 Dec01	2019 Dec14	Gambia	C56BR [spots]	ON4BR	DXW.Net 20191130
2019 Dec02	2019 Dec09	Micronesia	V6K [spots]	JA1XGI	DXNews 20190916
2019 Dec02	2019 Dec20	Burkina Faso	XT2AW [spots]	M0OXO	DXW.Net 20190512
2019 Dec02	2020 Jan05	Ecuador	HC [spots]	EA5RM	TDDX 20191007
2019 Dec03	2019 Dec24	Burkina Faso	XT2AW [spots]	M0OXO	TDDX 20191126
2019 Dec04	2019 Dec13	St Martin	TO9W [spots]	LoTW	TDDX 20190522
2019 Dec06	2019 Dec27	New Caledonia	FK	LoTW	DXNews 20191104
2019 Dec10	2019 Dec19	St Kitts & Nevis	V47JA	LoTW	W5JON 20191120

2019 Dec10	2019 Dec23	Maldives	8Q7XY	DF3XY Direct	TDDX 20191022
2019 Dec12	2019 Dec31	Honduras	HR5	F6AJA	TDDX 20191129
2019 Dec13	2019 Dec15	Senegal	6V1A	LoTW	DXNews 20191022
2019 Dec13	2019 Dec20	Georgia	4L	LoTW	TA1HZ 20191102
2019 Dec14	2020 Jan08	Thailand	HS0ZNR	LoTW	TDDX 20191001
2019 Dec15	2019 Dec21	Ecuador	HC5JLT	W9HT	DXNews 20190912
2019 Dec17	2019 Dec31	Rotuma	3D2AG/p	3D2AG PayPal	TDDX 20191129
2019 Dec21	2019 Dec28	Liechtenstein	HB0	LoTW	TDDX 20190912
2019 Dec22	2020 Jan03	Ogasawara	JD1BMH	JD1BMH Buro	DXW.Net 20191203
2019 Dec31	2020 Jan02	Iceland	TF	LoTW	DXW.Net 20191120

2020**January**

2020 Jan02	2020 Jan07	Cyprus SBA	ZC4UW	LoTW	DXW.Net 20191011
2020 Jan06	2020 Jan12	Palestine	E44RU	LoTW	DXW.Net 20191130
2020 Jan07	2020 Jan13	Palau	T88AQ	LoTW	TDDX 20191112
2020 Jan09	2020 Jan15	Montserrat	VP2MDT	WV2B	WV2B 20190917
2020 Jan11	2020 Jan19	Cayman Is	ZF2PG	LoTW	TDDX 20191001
2020 Jan12	2020 Jan31	Norfolk I	VK9NK	SP9FIH	SP9FIH 20190626
2020 Jan15	2020 Jan23	Palau	T8	Home Call	DXW.Net 20191203

2020 Jan20	2020 Feb09	Cocos I	TI9	LoTW	TDDX 20190917
2020 Jan24 NEW	2020 Jan26	Bahamas	C6AEI	WB4OM G	TDDX 20190919
2020 Jan30 NEW	2020 Feb13	El Salvador	HU1DL	LoTW	DXW.Net 20191027
February					
2020 Feb03	2020 Feb08	Martinique	TO3FM	LoTW	TDDX 20191115
2020 Feb04	2020 Feb18	Tanzania	5H	I2YSB	I2YSB 20190820
2020 Feb16	2020 Mar16	Tanzania	5H3DX	LoTW	TDDX 20191118
2020 Feb05	2020 Feb17	Palestine	E44CC	LoTW	DXW.Net 20191029
2020 Feb14	2020 Feb23	Cayman Is	ZF2AN	DF8AN	TDDX 20191107
ARRL International DX Contest, CW (Feb 15-16, 2020) Check here for pericontest activity too.					
2020 Feb20	2020 Mar04	Costa Rica	TI5	LoTW	AA1M 20191012
2020 Feb20	2020 Mar05	South Orkney Is	VP8	LoTW	K5GS 20190316
2020 Feb21	2020 Feb23	Puerto Rico	KP3RE	EA5GL	KP4RV 20191120
2020 Feb23	2020 Mar01	Bahamas	C6AAN	DF8AN	TDDX 20191107
March					
2020 Mar05	2020 Mar15	Zambia	9J2LA	M0OXO	DXW.Net 20190514
2020 Mar06	2020 Mar13	Antigua	V26FP	LoTW	DXNews 20191130
ARRL International DX Contest, Phone (Mar 7-8, 2020) Check here for pericontest activity too.					
2020 Mar10	2020 Mar25	American Samoa	W8S	TBA	PA3EWP 20190922
2020 Mar14	2020 Mar15	Belize	V31GX	LoTW	DXW.Net 20191203

2020 Mar18	2020 Apr03	West Kiribati	T30ET	LoTW	OPDX 20190630
2020 Mar23	2020 Apr03	Ivory Coast	TU2R	LoTW	ON4EI 20191103
April					
2020 Apr06	2020 Apr14	St Vincent	J88PI	GW4DV B	DXW.Net 20190625
May					
2020 May04	2020 May12	Maldives	8Q7KB	LoTW	TDDX 20190912
June					
2020 Jun30	2020 Jul14	St Pierre & Mi- quelon	FP	LoTW	TDDX 20191126
July					
2020 Jul08	2020 Jul15	Aruba	P4	ND7J	ND7J 20190722
October					
2020 Oct01	2020 Oct14	Midway I	KH4	Club Log OQRS	DXW.Net 20190731
2020 Oct05	2020 Oct12	Sable I	CY0	Club Log OQRS	WA4DAN 20190513

Thanks to:

NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

For the above DXpedition info.