



Long Path



Volume 31 Issue 5

SEMDXA NEWSLETTER

May 2021



PRES Sez

We have two substantial topics of business for the May Zoom meeting. The SEMDXA elections in June and meetings after COVID (MAC).

Elections

The election will bring in a new president, vice president, web master, and audio/video manager. I am offering my services as web master if needed. A question arose of whether the president needed to be a USA citizen as required by our bylaws. Whether that affects this election or not, we should discuss the reason for that bylaw and whether it should be removed. Addressing the issue of meetings after COVID is a lot for the new president to address, so I hope we have a lot of member support (I certainly volunteer to help). Please consider supporting SEMDXA by taking on one of the positions.

Meetings After COVID

We have discussed this in meetings and also the operations team has discussed this by email. So, the consensus was we would like to hold in-person meetings at a somewhat larger venue with wide band internet access so we can do Zoom from our meeting. We had two leads to finding such a place and they did not pan out. I went to a new restaurant on M15, 5 miles North of exit 89 (Clarkston) on I75. They had a meeting room that might work. I held off talking to them about it because, as I thought about what we needed, I realized I had issues that needed to be discussed by the membership. Let me present those so you can be thinking about them before hand.

1. **Meeting Location:** We have members coming long distances in every direction. Anywhere we have meetings will be a big burden on some.

cont'd...

Calendar

NEXT Meeting:

NEW

Virtual Meeting

May 13th, 2021 at 7 PM

PROGRAM

Bob Heil K9EID

Speaking about

“Audio“

SEMDXA OFFICERS

President: Doug Basberg, **N8VY**

Vice-president: Dave DeRain, **K8ESQ**

Treasurer: Brad Nowak, **N8SNM**

Secretary: Chet Latawicz, **VE3CFK**

Program Director: Ted Pauck, **K8NA**
and Steve Culp, **K8QKY**

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

Club Appointees:

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

LP Publisher: Chet Latawicz, **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**

PRES Sez ...cont'd

- 2 **Attendance:** If the meetings are available on Zoom, will we have less in-person attendance? If so, we may not qualify for use of the room. We have been asking for free use of the room for the dinners/drinks being ordered at the meetings. I can no longer guarantee any number with confidence. Will we be willing to pay a fee for the room (how much)?
- 3 **How does Zoom in-person meeting work:** The people in-person at the meeting will mingle, socialize, eat, and watch a Zoom screen hooked to the president's computer. The other attendees can not have their computer on the Zoom meeting due to band width. The attendees will be invisible to the remote Zoom attendees. That certainly has affects on the business meeting. The presentation on Zoom should work fine I think.
- 4 **Is this the right time to move our meeting venue:** How many complexities do we want to handle at once? Do we want to meet at Gino's in October without Zoom and then address the next step? That lets the new operations team get organized and working before taking on a rather difficult task of in-person/Zoom hybrid meetings. If so, we have to stop booking Zoom presentations starting in October (or whenever we start meeting in-person).

Conclusion

I have no conclusion, just a lot of questions we all need to discuss. The May meeting may run overtime (LOL). I am sending this to the operations team at the same time I am sending this to Chet for publication in the Long Path so they have more time to consider these questions, and hopefully, do some email discussion before the meeting.

73, Doug , N8VY

Future SEMDXA Programs

Our program directors - Ted, K8NA and Steve, K8QKY have lined up a marvelous chorus of ZOOM presentations until September. Here they are:

June - Rob K6RB -- topic CW OPS

September - Esteban YV5DTA/W4DTA

Contest University

Registration is now OPEN for Virtual Contest University 2021 on May 20, 2021 and for 2021 Hamvention Forums on May 21, 2021. For more information please go to: [Contest University](#) and [Hamvention](#)

ZOOM MEETINGS

As most of our readership are aware, SEMDXA in-person monthly meetings have been replaced with virtual meetings, using ZOOM till September 2021 (and possibly later, depending on COVID-19 circumstances and how comfortable the membership is to meeting in person)

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.

Our link to the May13th ZOOM meeting is:

<https://umich.zoom.us/j/91352970493>

The meeting begins at 7:00 PM

Visalia DX Convection

This year, the 72nd meeting of this famous International DX Convention, sponsored by the Northern California DX Club (NCDXC) will be held on Saturday, May 15 and Sunday, May 16, via Zoom webinars.

Registration is now open at dxconvention.com.

Participants will be able to attend eight DX-related webinars on Saturday, eight vendor webinars on Sunday and will be eligible for door prizes.

All webinars will be recorded and posted later to the NCDXC website.

Advance registration is required to obtain the login details.

CY0C Sable Island

The Sable Island CY0C DXpedition team was recently informed by the Parks Canada-Sable Island manager that the scheduled October 2021 Sable DXpedition would have to be postponed due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

Furthermore, because of the pandemic, Parks Canada is behind on their island maintenance projects and the Visitor Quarters will not be available for the DXpedition team. The Sable Island manager did extend an invitation to the team for October 2022, which the team unanimously accepted.

Since the 2021 CY0C DXpedition is not possible, the Sable DXpedition team is offering options to the many foundations, clubs and individuals who have already sent financial support. We are offering complete refunds to those who request it. If you would like us to apply your contribution to the 2022 CY0C DXpedition, that will be available as well. Any refund requests should be directed to WA4DAN.

CANCELLATIONS

- SEMDXA May **in-person** meeting cancelled. BUT! We're having a Virtual Meeting on Thursday May 13th!
- Friedrichshafen 2021 is cancelled.
- Hamvention 2021, XENIA, OH cancelled
- WRTC 2022 postponed to 2023

NOT CANCELLED YET

Some things to look forward to:

- Sun spot Cycle 25 and 26
- June issue of The Long Path
- 4th of July, Thanksgiving, Christmas
- 2021 W9DXCC

3D2ZK - Fiji



My name is Joanna. I recently finished at Jagielonica Law University in Krakow, Poland. I am a living rebel, so I joined forces with Rebel Dx Group. My plan is to be active from 3D2/C, 3D2/R and several rare IOTAs around Fiji from May 2021 for 3-4 months.

VK9X Christmas Is

VK6SJ, Steve, has a trip planned to the island for May 25 to June 15. He will be on a work assignment and will be operating in the off hours, probably nighttime and mainly FT-8. He will be signing VK9XX

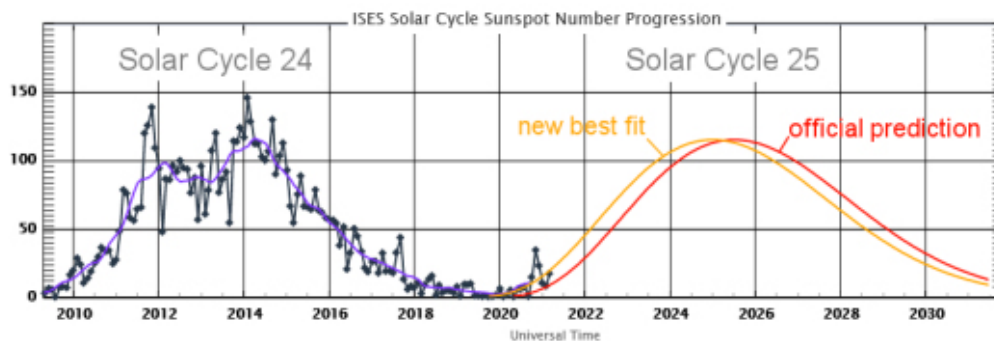
3A - Monaco

IW1RBI, Ennio, says his group's next 3A operation is coming up soon, sometime between the end of May and mid-June. They expect to do digital modes this time with one station dedicated to FT8 F/H, as much as 24 hours a day.

C5 - The Gambia

F5RAV, Luc, with friends F5NVF, Gerard, and M0NPT/7X2TT, Abdel, have gotten a Gambia license, C5C, good until April 22, 2022. They are preparing to go in October-November, to be QRV on 80-10 including 60M, the QO-100 satellite, plus 2 and 70cm, vacation style.

Updated Solar Forecast



Above: Sunspot counts confirm that Solar Cycle 25 is intensifying and might be running ahead of schedule.

Hamfest Calender

5/15/2021 - GMARC Trunkfest, Shelby Twp, MI
 5/20-22/2021 - Dayton Hamvention Virtual Sessions on-line
 6/5/2021 - Fulton County, Wauseon, OH
 6/5/2021 - IRA Hamfest, Hudsonville, MI
 6/6/2021 - Chelsea Hamfest, Chelsea, MI
 6/12/2021 - Luce Co Yooper Hamfest, Newberry, MI
 6/19/2021 - GMARC Trunkfest, Shelby Twp, MI
 6/20/2021 - Monroe Hamfest, Monroe, MI
 7/10/2021 - Mansfield Mid Summer Trunkfest, Mansfield, OH
 7/10/2021 - Cave City Hamfest - Cave City, KY
 7/17/2021 - GMARC Trunkfest, Shelby Twp, MI
 7/17/2021 - NOARS Fest, Elyria, OH
 7/18/2021 - Van Wert Hamfest, Van Wert, OH
 8/7/2021 - Columbus Hamfest, Columbus, OH
 8/14/2021 - Central Kentucky Hamfest, Lexington, KY
 8/21/2021 - GMARC Trunkfest, Shelby Twp, MI
 8/28/2021 - Cincinnati Hamfest, Cincinnati, OH
 9/11/2021 - Greater Louisville, Shepherdsville, KY
 9/11/2021 - GRAHamfest, Grand Rapids, MI
 9/18/2021 - Cadillac Hamfest, Cadillac, MI
 9/18/2021 - Richmond Hamfest, Richmond, KY
 9/18/2021 - GMARC Trunkfest, Shelby Twp, MI
 9/18/2021 - CMARC Hamfest, Okemos, MI
 9/19/2021 - Adrian Hamfest, Adrian, MI
 9/26/2021 - Cleveland Hamfest, Berea, OH
 10/25/2021 - USECA Hamfest, Madison Hgts, MI
 12/4/2021 - Fulton Co Winterfest, Delta, OH

Drafted by - EA3O

PERIODIC TABLE OF MAJOR AMATEUR RADIO CONTESTS



2021

Multimode CW Digital
 off-the-air SSB VHF/UHF

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2 1800Z ARRL RTTY Roundup	3 2400Z NA Sprint CW	7 0400Z ARRL DX SSB	7 2400Z SP Polish DX	3 1500Z 7QP/IN/DE New England QSO Parties	4 1500Z SEANET Contest	1 varies Marconi Memorial HF	2 varies NAQP CW	5 1200Z CWOps CW Open	6 1200Z California QSO Party	3 2100Z ARRL SS CW	8 0300Z ARRL 160
9 1800Z NAQP CW	10 0600Z WPX RTTY	13 0000Z NA Sprint RTTY	14 2400Z JIDX CW	14 0400Z CQ-M DX	10 0700Z ARRL June VHF	11 1300Z IARU HF	8 1500Z WAE CW	4 2359Z WAE SSB	2 1600Z Oceania CW	6 2100Z WAE RTTY	3 0300Z ARRL 10
16 1800Z NAQP SSB	17 0600Z ARRL DX CW	20 2400Z Russian DX	21 1200Z CQMM DX	17 0900Z King of Spain	18 2359Z All Asian CW	15 1200Z CQ VHF	16 1200Z NAQP SSB	19 varies WA/NJ/NH QSO Parties	18 1600Z Worked All Germany	22 0300Z ARRL SS SSB	18 2359Z RAC Winter
16 1800Z ARRL January VHF	18 0359Z CQ 160 SSB	26 2200Z WPX SSB	27 2200Z Florida QSO Party	28 2400Z Contest University Dayton Hamvention	20 2159Z ARRL Field Day	23 1700Z RSGB IOTA	24 1200Z WW Digi	25 1200Z CQWW RTTY	26 2400Z HAPPY HOLIDAYS	27 0000Z CQWW CW	28 2400Z HAPPY HOLIDAYS
29 2200Z CQ 160 CW	31 2159Z CQWW SSB			29 0000Z WPX CW	30 2400Z CQWW SSB				30 0000Z CQWW SSB	31 2400Z CQWW SSB	

Geomagnetic storm season: its finally over!

by W3LPL Frank Donovan

There are usually about twice as many geomagnetic storms during March and April compared to June and July. The ratio of severe (Kp=8 or 9) storms is much greater. But the end of geomagnetic storm season doesn't mean the end of geomagnetic storms, two of the most severe (Kp=8+) geomagnetic storms during solar cycle 24 occurred on June 22 and 23, 2015.

We probably won't notice significantly fewer storms until June. Storms during June and July aren't as frequent or as strong as they are during

the geomagnetic storm seasons (March/April, and September/October). But geomagnetic storms -- even the most severe storms (Kp 8 or 9) -- can occur at any time with little warning.

Earth directed coronal mass ejections (CMEs) are just beginning to cause occasional geomagnetic storms now that solar cycle 25 is more active. During the next few years CMEs will become the dominant cause of moderate to severe geomagnetic storms. Geomagnetic storms caused by CMEs usually develop more quickly, are more long lasting and more severe than the mostly short duration minor storms caused by coronal hole high speed streams during the approximately four years near solar minimum.

3Y0J - Bouvet Is.

Press Release #2 from the Intrepid-DX Group

Bouvet is like the Mount Everest of DXCC entities. It is among the most challenging entities to activate due to significant transportation costs and personal sacrifices required by the team to make the 42 day round trip. Fortunately, Bouvet is not our first mountain. We are well prepared for this challenge.

All plans are going well. We are researching polar quality tents and equipment. We are discussing antenna specifications with various manufacturers. We will make careful choices to help us meet the demand for Bouvet contacts.

We are delighted to add a second Physician to our team. Dr. Mike Crowover-AB5EB and Dr. Bill Straw-KO7SS are both seasoned Emergency Physicians and will help the team immensely with their expertise.

Our fundraising is going very well. We have received a significant donation from our longtime friend Y. Zorro Miyazawa JH1AJT. Zorro has always been an enthusiastic supporter of our missions and his generosity is greatly appreciated.

We are pleased to announce that we will receive the ARRL's Colvin Grant, as well as large donations from the Far East DX-ploiters Foundation, the German DX Foundation and the Twin Cities DX Association. We would love to add your Club or your Call to our sponsors pages.

This will be an arduous and expensive mission. Our budget is \$764,000 USD and the 3Y0J team will fund much of this mission. We desperately need the global DX Community to support our mission and help us make this important activation of the #2 most wanted DXCC entity. It is only through this kind of support that we can achieve our mission of making 100,000 contacts or more from Bouvet.

In closing, we especially wish to thank our many Foundation, Club and Individual donors. Without this kind of support, operations to the world's rarest entities would not be possible. Please include your call sign, mailing address and email address with your PayPal submissions. We would not want to miss QSLing with you!

You can follow our plans from our website and the 3Y0J Facebook: [3y0J Website](#)

JW - Svalbard

A Norwegian team of 5 or 6 operators plan to activate Prins Karls Forland Island, Spitsbergen's Coastal Islands (EU-063) in late July. Prins Karls Forland Island has not been on the air over the last 20 years. The planned one week "tent and generator" operation is expected between July 21 and 26, including participation in the RSGB IOTA Contest.

Noise Cancellers

Steve, VE6WZ says if you have ever tried to eliminate local noise using a phase box (noise canceller) like the MFJ-1026 or NCC-1 and been disappointed, you need to watch this video. This video explains how to use these boxes for specific local noise cancelling. Over the years I have met a number of operators that have been disappointed and discouraged when using these boxes to eliminate specific local noises.

Often after speaking with them, I discovered that they were unfamiliar with the proper set-up and need for a specific Aux or noise antenna to achieve proper nulling. Just hooking these boxes up to some random antennas and hoping for success without understanding the theory and objective may not work very well. For 15 yrs at VE6WZ I have used both the MFJ-1026 and NCC-1 to eliminate local noise at my city QTH. I show the theory of how these boxes work, and present some tips on set-up and adjustment to achieve success. [Link to the video](#)

5U - Niger

F4IHM, Adrien, is heading back to Niamey, Niger where he plans to once again be QRV as 5UAIHM between May 10 and June 15. He'll have an IC-706MKIIG and a wire antenna. Activity will be on CW on 40 and 20 meters.

Danny Weil

A Dreamer of Distant Lands Who Took Amateur Radio on the Trip of a Lifetime

The Board of Directors of the Yasme Foundation is pleased to announce the release of "Danny Weil – A Dreamer of Distant Lands Who Took Amateur Radio on the Trip of a Lifetime" by Martti Laine, OH2BH, AH3D, VP2VB (re-issued). The 21-page article is published at [click here](#) — click on the "Danny Weil: DXer & Dreamer" menu entry. The page also contains a list of Danny Weil expeditions, a collection of Danny's QSLs, and an interview with Danny at age 80, with OE1WHC of Dokufunk. Along with OH2BH's article, the book Yasme: The Danny Weil and Colvin Radio Expeditions by James D. Cain, K1TN, is also now available for the first time as a free downloadable.

6M Season is here

HC1MD/2, Rick NE8Z was heard on 6M on Monday, May 3rd. Many along the east coast of the USA worked him as well as LU's, CE, CX PY, and HI's. Your editor did work VP8 on April 20th for a new one. Stay on the look out. 6M season for

Thank you to Bernie, W3UR, The Daily DX, The Weekly DX, ARRL and DX World, NG3K and W3LPL for their contributions to this newsletter.

A3 - Tonga

After a year of being QRT JA0RQV, Masa, will be back on Tongatapu Island (OC-049) and QRV as A35JP next month through October. He will also try to activate Niuatoputapu (OC-191), Niufo'ou (OC-123), Vava'u (OC-064) and Ha'apai (OC-169).

Ted K8NA looking for contractor

Ted recently lost his tower and antennas to storms and is looking at rebuilding. He invited me to approach the SEMDXA membership for potential contractors which Ted could contact with his rebuild project. The membership forwarded the following which were subsequently forwarded to Ted:

- Antenna Men - Lansing MI
- Andrew, KE8BIT - Thomson-engineering.com
- Pete, W8PD - Holland MI
- W8LX

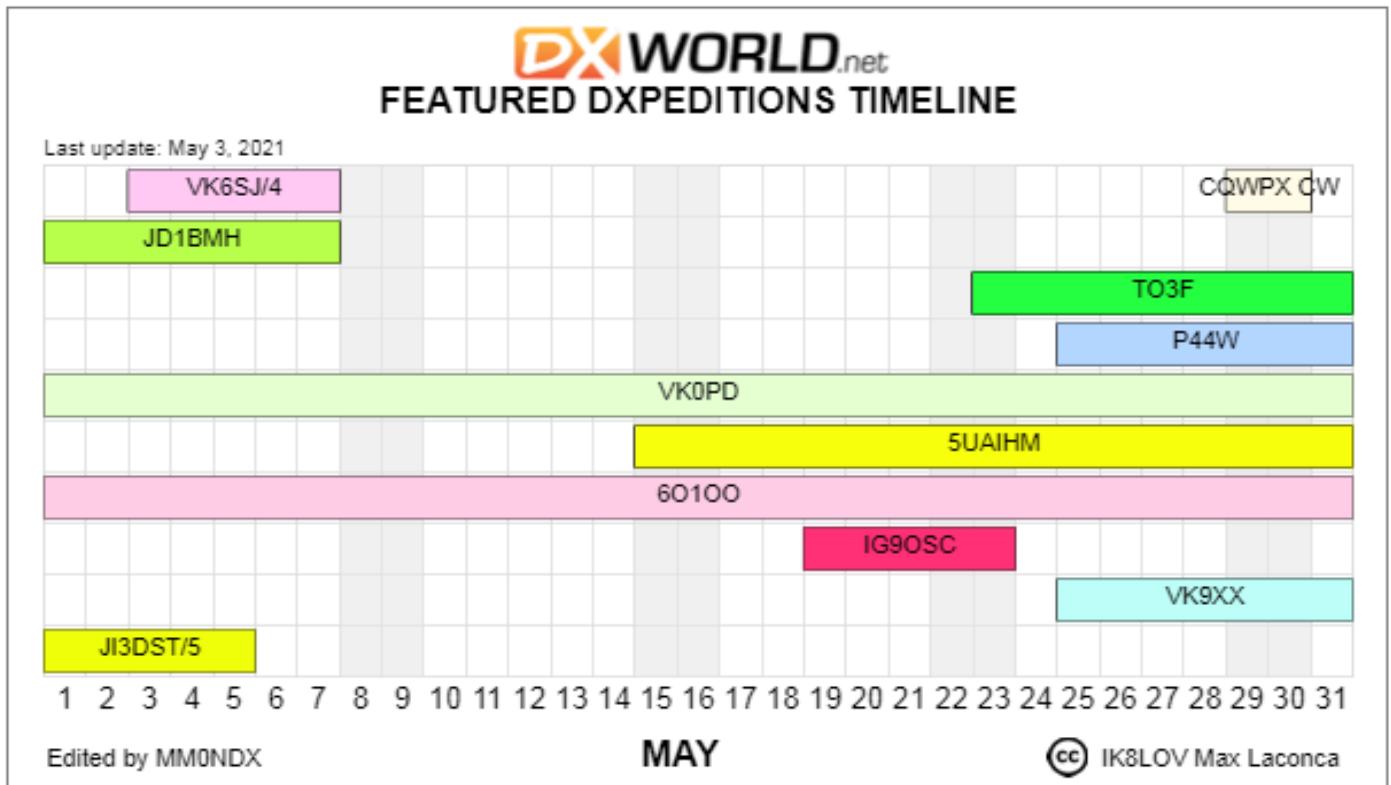
The last feedback I received from Ted is that he may have a contractor lined up to do the concrete work and install the tower, but still needs someone to assemble and install the antennas and feed lines, etc. The planned tower is a 70' crank up, fold over, so no tower climbing required.

USPS Status

Here's a link to "[USPS International Service disruptions list](#)" as of May 1, 2021.

Upcoming DX

Credit to DX World



PJ2T Video

Pete, K8PGJ forwards a Youtube link to a live tour of PJ2T contesting station.

[PJ2T Youtube video](#)

Thank you Pete.

Lemmings over a Demographic Cliff

Frank Howell, K4FMH, followed up his two-part National Contest Journal (NCJ) series, “The Demographics of Contesting,” with a post to his Social Circuits blog, called “Lemmings over a Demographic Cliff?” Howell points to data showing that radio contesters are older than the average ARRL member.

Howell argues that formats of major radio contests

may serve the leisure interests of established contesters — those on the far end of the demographic spectrum — but may not offer the best experience for contesting newcomers.

“Traditional radiosport is facing a demographic cliff of aging ham contesters,” he asserts. “Those highly invested in the status quo won’t be around to experience the diminishing number of participants, but they now have the political clout to direct strategic actions.”

Howell argues that demography does not have to be destiny. “It does require taking the blinders off tradition and evaluating it for what it is today and what it means for the future,” he concluded.

-- full article at ARRL news.

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio
Contest/DX Page

Editors NOTE:

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

Start Date	End Date	Dxcc Entity	Call	QSL via	Reported by
2021					
March					
2021 Mar05	2021 May15	Ecuador	HC1MD/2 [spots]	LoTW	TDDX 20210303
April					
2021 Apr25	2021 Jun25	Somalia	6O1OO [spots]	See Info	425DXN 20210416
2021 Apr30	2021 May07	Ogasawara	JD1BMH [spots]	JD1BMH Buro	TDDX 20210426
May					
2021 May10	2021 Jun15	Niger	5UAIHM	F4IHM	TDDX 20210416
2021 May23	2021 Jun05	Martinique	FM	ON4RU Direct	ON4RU 20210314
2021 May25	2021 Jun15	Christmas Island	VK9XX	EB8DX	DXW.Net 20210415
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW (May 29-30, 2021) Check here for pericontest					
2021 May30	2021 Jun30	Tonga	A35JP	LoTW	JA0RQV 20210404
June					
2021 Jun10	2021 Jun12	Ogasawara	JD1BLY	J15RPT	J15RPT 20210422
2021 Jun30	2021 Jul03	Alaska	KL7RRC	N7RO	TDDX 20210420
July					
2021 Jul07	2021 Jul12	Alaska	KL7RRC	N7RO	TDDX 20210420
2021 Jul07	2021 Jul14	Aruba	P4	ND7J	ND7J 20190722
2021 Jul14	2021 Jul16	Alaska	KL7RRC	N7RO	TDDX 20210420

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio
Contest/DX Page

2021 Jul14	2021 Jul21	Bahamas	C6AHA	LoTW	DXW.Net 20210305
2021 Jul23	2021 Aug03	St Vincent	J88PI	GW4DV B Direct	DXW.Net 20200727
2021 Jul21	2021 Jul26	Svalbard	JW0W	LoTW	DXW.Net 20210422

[RSGB IOTA Contest, SSB \(Jul 24-25, 2021\) Check here for pericontest ac-](#)

August

2021 Aug01	2021 Aug30	Dominican Republic	HI9	eQSL	TDDX 20200206
2021 Aug08	2021 Aug16	St Pierre & Miquelon	TO5T	LoTW	DXNews 20200804

September

2021 Sep20	2021 Sep30	Tanzania	5H1IP	ClubLog OQRS	DXNews 20210227
2021 Sep21	2021 Oct05	St Pierre & Miquelon	FP	LoTW	DXW.Net 20191126

[CQ WW DX Contest, RTTY \(Sep 25-26, 2021\) Check here for pericontest](#)

2021 Sep29	2021 Oct13	Maldives	8Q7CQ	M0OXO	DXW.Net 20201025
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October

2021 Oct01	2021 Oct30	Mellish Reef	VK9HR	TBD	TDDX 20210128
2021 Oct09	2021 Oct23	Surinam	PZ5GE	LoTW	DXW.Net 20210323
2021 Oct16	2021 Nov12	St Kitts & Nevis	V47JA	LoTW	W5JON 20201209
2021 Oct25	2021 Nov01	St Eustatius	PJ5	LoTW	W5JON 20201209

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio
Contest/DX Page

CQ WW DX Contest, SSB (Oct 30-31, 2021) Check here for pericontest					
November					
2021 Nov03	2021 Nov13	Willis I	VK9W	TBD	DXW.Net 20210215
CQ WW DX Contest, CW (Nov 27-28, 2021) Check here for pericontest					
December					
2021 Dec16	2021 Dec22	Bangladesh	S21DX	LoTW	DXW.Net 20210319
2021 Dec25	2022 Jan25	Bouvet I	3Y0I	TBA	DXW.Net 20210405
2022					
2022 Mar02	2022 Mar11	Galapagos	HD8M	LoTW	TDDX 20220423
2023					
January					
2023 Jan15	2023 Feb05	Bouvet I	3Y0J	LoTW	N6PSE 20210404

April 2021 Meeting Minutes

Chet Latawicz, VE3CFK, Secretary

Meeting opened at 7:05 PM

A role call was taken and there were 23 participants in the ZOOM meeting.

March meeting minutes as published in the April issue of the Long Path were accepted. Motion to accept - Al, K8SIX and seconded by Rick, KE500

A treasures report was not presented as Brad, N8SNM our treasurer was not present at the meeting (again! Consensus is that there is still money in our account and Brad is out spending it)

OLD BUSINESS - NON

NEW BUSINESS - Discussion around whether the October meeting, which could possibly be an in-person meeting, should be a ZOOM meeting. Nothing was resolved at this meeting. (This item

is on the agenda for May's meeting).

Also discussed was potential new venues for October meeting. Doug is exploring further the possibilities.

The SEMDXA presentation for the evening by Adrian, KO8SCA started at 7:22. Adrian made a very entertaining presentation on the Bhutan DXpedition of December 2019. Glenn Johnston joined the meeting and Adrian and Glenn had an interesting exchange about their respective DXpeditions. Adrian highlighted the fact that his DXpedition was the first to host 160M and 60M. They logged 936 and 1184 QSOs respectively. The highlight of the DXpedition was a visit by the Prince of Bhutan which is the brother of the King of Bhutan.

Motion to close was made by Al, K8SIX and seconded by Steve, K8QKY.

The meeting closed at 9 PM.