



Long Path



Volume 32 Issue 2

SEMDXA NEWSLETTER

February 2022



From the Editor's DESK

Time flies! And with it change.

The Dayton Hamvention preparation and registrations are in full swing. I've booked my hotel room, signed up for Contest University and also Top Band Dinner. Dayton! Here we come. Covid 19 Omicron strain appears to be waning. Case loads are dropping. I'm triple Vaxed. Dayton here we come! About 20 years ago I became very involved with the GERATOL Net group. Met some marvelous people through that organization. Still friends today. Dayton is reunion time. After a 2 year hiatus, it's time for reunion. Most of us stay at the Quality Inn in Miamisburg, where the nightly rate is very reasonable. It's a bit of a drive to Xenia, but the hotel savings more than pay for the gas expenditure. Every evening, we go somewhere different for dinner. Pizza one night. Mexican the next. Finally a steak joint. All the while recounting ham radio life from the past year.

Ted and Steve have lined up another excellent speaker for our February virtual ZOOM meeting. It would appear (at least for now) that the remainder of our meetings for the 2021/2022 membership year will be virtual meetings. The hunt for an in-person meeting facility is still ongoing. Any suggestions would be greatly appreciated, keeping in mind that the new facility would preferably have wideband and high-speed internet.

2022 is shaping up to be an exciting DX year after a 2 year hiatus. With Bouvet and Crozet Islands on the horizon late this year, it gives us amply time to fine tune our stations and antennas to snag these two rare DX entities. One or both are desperately needed by many in our DX club. See you in the pile-ups!

73, Chet VE3CFK

NEXT Meeting:

NEW

Virtual Meeting

February 10th, 2022 at 7 PM

PROGRAM

Tim Duffy,

K3LR presenting :

Best Practice Station Bonding and Grounding

SEMDXA OFFICERS

President: Vacant

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

Treasurer: Brad Nowak, **N8SNM**

Secretary: Chet Latawiec, **VE3CFK**

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

Directors: Doug **N8VY** and Bob **K8RGM**

Club Appointees:

Web Site Editor: Doug Basberg, **K8VY**

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**

Meeting Minutes of January 2022

The virtual ZOOM meeting was held on January 13th, 2022. The meeting commenced at 7:04 PM. 16 people were virtually in attendance. Dave DeRain, K8ESQ presided over the meeting.

Brad, N8SNM presented a financial report. No one opposed the report, so it was unanimously accepted.

Dave asked if there were any omissions or corrections to the November meeting minutes as presented in the January Long Path. There were no objections or corrections and the minutes were thusly accepted.

OLD Business.

Chet, VE3CFK, secretary, presented the results of the on-line survey as to whether the club would support the 3Y0J Bouvet Island DXpedition with a \$500 or \$1000 donation. 36 members were solicited. 24 replied. 7 voted for \$500. 17 voted for \$1000. Per club bylaws, a minimum of 1/3 of fully paid members constitute a quorum. So \$1000 was approved for donation. Brad was instructed to right the DXpedition a check for \$1000.

NEW Business:

- On-line membership list has been updated
- Most wanted list was last updated in 2018. Doug Basberg has volunteered to prepare another survey
- Updated Constitution and Bylaws. Chet, VE3CFK emailed the membership with the revised Constitution and Bylaws for comment and review. The updated Constitution and Bylaws were put to a vote of acceptance to those attending the meeting. The new Constitution and Bylaws were unanimously accepted by those present.
- SEMDXA is still looking for a president
- Chet, VE3CFK stated that Visalia was cancelled. W9DXCC is still on the books for 2022

- SEMDXA is still looking for an in-person meeting room. Any suggestions welcome. Facility must have wideband internet.
- There was no presentation for January's meeting.
- Business meeting adjourned at 7:29
- The members lingered for a considerable time after the meeting, engaged in friendly conversation

ZOOM MEETINGS

As most of our readership are aware, SEMDXA in-person monthly meetings have been replaced with virtual meetings.

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.

**Use the one step process
and just click on the link
below to join upcoming
meetings.**

<https://umich.zoom.us/j/91352970493?pwd=N0t3N1RpUFZjVGQzZHZwTnU0bHpuUT09>

HR - Honduras

AD8J, John, will be operating as HR9/AD8J from February 12-26 on Guanaja Island (NA-057), Honduras. He will be running 100 watts with wire antennas on 80-10 meters, including the WARC-79 bands, on CW, FT8 and some SSB. During the ARRL International DX CW Contest he'll be on 80 through 10 meters.

FO/A - Austral Is

JA1XGI, Haru, expects to be active November 1-21, pending any travel and pandemic restrictions and changes, with his callsign FO/W1XGI. He hopes to be on 160-10M, including 30, 17 and 12, mostly CW he says, and "sometimes" digital modes, FT8/4.

FT#X - Kerguelen Is

F6EXV, Paul, as of early January 2022 has still not assembled a station. He hopes to be on shortly with his Xiegu G90 and DX Commander and a portable type of vertical antenna. He may have a 100 watt rig available to him in the future.

YB - Indonesia

The FTDMC group, the FT8 Digital Mode Club, is celebrating their fifth anniversary with special callsigns on the air July 4-17. All will have a FTDMC or FTDM suffix.

Operator 8B0FTDM is YB0MZI QSL via N2OO
Operator 8B1FTDM ops YB1BD, YB1BX, YE1AR QSL via N2OO

Operator 8B2FTDM is YB2MM QSL via N2OO
Operator 8B3FTDM is YB3BBF QSL via N2OO
Operator 8B4FTDM is YB4KAR QSL via N2OO
Operator 8B5FTDM is YB5QZ QSL via N2OO
Operator 8B6FTDM are YB6HAI, YB6ABO QSL via N2OO

Operator 8B7FTDM is YB7CCP QSL via N2OO
Operator 8B8FTDM is YE8RAF QSL via N2OO
Operator 8B9FTDM is YB9UA QSL via N2OO

CANCELLATIONS

- SEMDXA February 2022 **in-person** meeting cancelled. BUT! We're having a Virtual Meeting on February 10th at 7 PM
- DXpeditions are still being cancelled and or delayed. Just when we thought things were improving!
- 2022 International DX Convention in Visalia on April 8, 9 and 10th has been cancelled.

NOT CANCELLED YET

Some things to look forward to:

- 2022 Hamvention
- March issue of The Long Path
- W9DXCC
- Thanksgiving, Christmas

Free EZNEC

W7EL, Roy Lewallen, creator of the very popular EZNEC Antenna Software has retired and he has offered the program EZNEC for free. Here is the link [EZNEC](#)

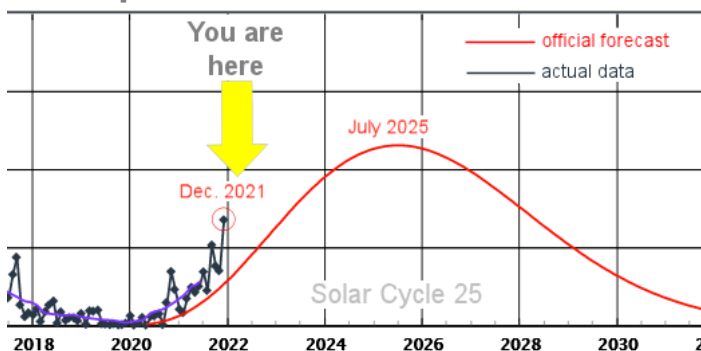
Thank you Roy.

6W - Senegal

6W7/ON4ANT, Willy, says his QTH will be Warrang February 6 to April 10, with an IC-7100 to end-fed wire or double Zepp, 80-10M digital modes.

Cycle 25

Sunspot Counts: Predicted vs. Actual



Predicted vs. actual sunspot counts show that Solar Cycle 25 is strengthening faster than expected. Let's hope that it peaks much higher than predicted as well.

TU - Ivory Coast

Members of the Czech DXpedition group have announced plans for their TU5PCT DXpedition to the Ivory Coast in early February of this year. The team will include OK1BOA, Petr; OK1FCJ, Petr; and OK6DJ, David. Plans are to arrive on February 4th. They will begin a limited operation as they build up the station on February 5th and 6th with full operation expected between February 7th and 12th. Activity will be on SSB, CW, RTTY and FT8 on 1.8 through 50 MHz.

HAMVENTION

From the Home page of "Contest University":

Attention Contesters and DXers! Contest-related activities that have previously taken place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel during the Dayton Hamvention(R) are moving to the Hope Hotel beginning in 2022.

In May 2022, official Contesting activities will be at the Hope Hotel, including four nights of the Contest Super Suite, Contest University, The Top Band Dinner, The Contest Dinner and the KC DX Club CW copying competition. There may be additional related events as well.

The Hope Hotel is an excellent facility, well suited for Contesters and DXers. There is plenty of parking and it is located closer to the Hamvention than the downtown Dayton hotels. The Hope Hotel is adjacent to the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Guests do not go through the security gate.

Contest University Registration. [Register here](#)

Top Band Dinner. [Register here](#)

Contest Dinner. [Register here](#)

SWODXA DX Dinner. [Register here](#)

Hamvention Tickets. [Order here](#)

From the Hamvention Team:

"We strongly anticipate that the Hamvention 2022 is a go. We cannot guarantee what government may decide about unknown changes in the pandemic. It has become obvious that the State of Ohio is very unlikely to call a halt to large gatherings anytime soon. Despite a recent large spike in Omicron COVID cases and hospitalizations, there is no move to restrict large indoor or outdoor events such as sports events."

Your editor has already registered for Contest University and Top Band Dinner. Hope to see you there!!!

NEW IRCs



The new International Reply Coupons with a sale and redemption period of 4 years (until 31.12.2025) are now in circulation.

All other designs are now unusable and only the ones in this image are now available in exchange for the minimum postal charge equivalent to an International basic letter or International Air Mail to any UPU Member State

8Q - Maldives

LU4DXU, Henry, is heading to Dharavandhoo Island (AS-013), where he plans to be QRV as 8Q7AH from February 8-15. He will have an FT-891 and HLA 300 amplifier with dipoles. Expect activity on SSB and FT8 on all bands.

PZ - Suriname

DL6KVA, Axel, has announced his plans to be QRV from February 1-10, 2022 as PZ5KV. He will be on CW only. He does not need your QSL and requests should be done via Club Log OQRS for either direct or bureau QSLS.

Hamfest Calender

2/5/2022 - HARA Swap, Negaunee, MI
 2/12/2022 - Cherryland, Traverse City, MI
 2/26/2022 - Livonia Swap, Redford, MI
 3/5/2022 - Cave City, Cave City, KY
 3/12/2022 - MOVARC Hamfest, Bidewll, OH
 3/13/2022 - NOARS Winter Hamfest, Elyria, OH
 3/20/22 - Toledo Mobile Radio Assn Swap, Perrysburg, OH
 4/9/2022 - Cuyahoga Falls, Cuyahoga Falls, OH
 4/24/22 - Athens Hamfest, Athens, OH
 5/7/22 - Cadillac Hamfest, Cadillac, MI
 5/20 to 5/22/2022 - Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH
 5/21/22 - GMARC Trunk Swap, Shelby Twp., MI

VP2M - Montserrat

W2APF, Thaire, is operating as VP2MDX from January 5 to February 18. He is running a KX3 and a KPA1000 to a BuddiPole Hexbeam. Listen for him on CW and SSB on 80 through 10 meters.

J8 - St. Vincent

VP2EIH, Ira, is currently vacationing on Anguilla Island signing as VP2EIH/J8. He will be there for about the next two weeks. He will be working SSB on 80, 40, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 and 6 meters.

Pete - K8PGJ

Pete will be at PJ2T for ARRL DX March 1-8.

Z6 – Kosovo

DL2JRM, Rene, plans to be QRV as Z66BCC from Gjilanin this year's CQ WPX RTTY Contest, February 12.

FW – Wallis and Futuna

F4CIX, Jean-Gabriel Guillemonat, callsign FW1JG, from Hahake, Wallis Island, says he is active on 20, 15 and 10 SSB and digital modes. He has a multiband dipole and IC-7300 rig. This time he is there for two years or more, with radio as his leisure activity. He hopes to add 40 meters to his bands soon and is trying to raise the money to ship a 5- band spiderbeam out to him.

J68HZ – St Lucia

Until February 8, K9HZ & K8SD are active as J68HZ from Grand Piton; 160-2m; CW, SSB, FT8 & FM; QSL via K9HZ direct.

J69DS, K9HZ, KA4RRU, WA4PGM and W0CN will be active from St Lucia as J68HZ during March 1-7, 2022. QRV on 160-10m, participation in the ARRL DX SSB Contest.

3Y0J - Bouvet Is.



SEMDXA Club Logo is proudly displayed on the 3Y0J webpage for clubs supporting the 3Y0J DXpedition in the range of \$1000—\$2500.

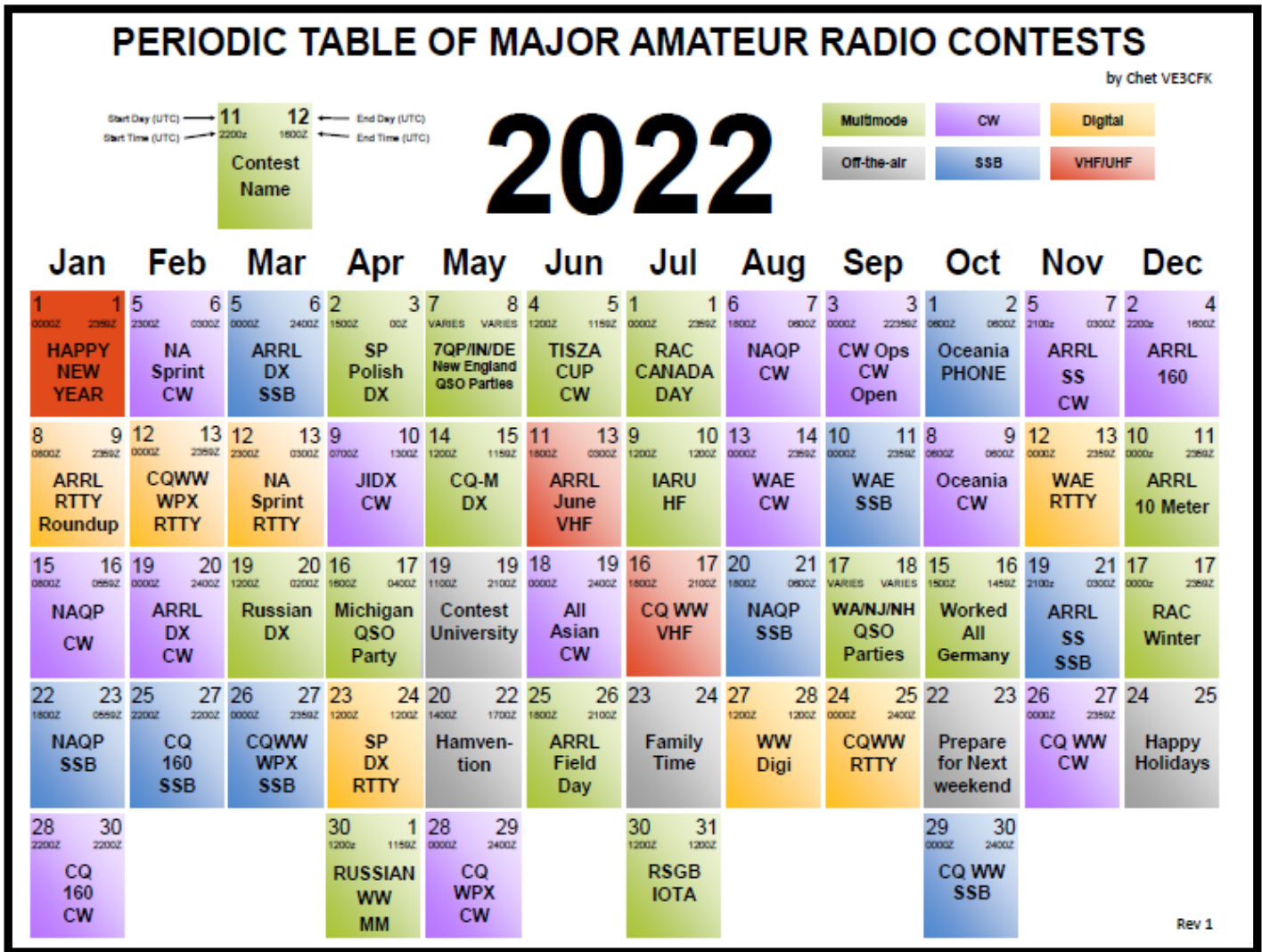
3Y0J - Bouvet Is.

From the 3Y0J webpage:

More DX Engineering equipment arrived in Oslo today. We're preparing for a good topband setup. For 160m and 80m we bring with us 3 antennas for EACH band both spiderpoles and DX Engineering aluminium verticals. This is different technologies and thus we can adapt to various site conditions. We can also risk losing 2 antennas on 160 and still we're ON. Same on 80m. We have a good amount of spare parts and you can trust us we will be WELL prepared. Dave WD5COV has started installing the 160m alu vertical in US where he will construct a fallen derrick system to get it up in the air. All 21m tall 160/80m verticals will be guyed in 4 directions and 4 levels and have 40 ground radials. We have a 1500W power limit which is an exemption from the regulation. We also bring with us a RX antenna system to be installed 300m away from the camp so we can feed this signal to all 160-30m stations simultaneously!

W3LPL 6M Ant. Talk

Frank, W3LPL put on a presentation for The Pontiac Valley Radio Club recently. Entitled "Selecting, Constructing and Maintaining 6 Meter High Performance Yagis", the video is quite long (about 1 2/3 hours) but full of information. He explains why my 6M beam worked better at 25 feet last year than at 55 feet 2 years ago. He explains ground gain, which I always found interesting for moon bounce, but could never find a satisfactory explanation. Now I know! Here's the YouTube link to his presentation - [W3LPL](#)



Credits for the Periodic Table of Major Amateur Radio Contests

In 2021 your editor found the 2021 Calendar created by EA3O on the internet . In 2022 the search was reinstated, but a suitable calendar was not found. The closest match was by Tim Gennett, K9WX. Tim was gracious enough to share his template with me. Thank you Tim! Tim also directed me to “ [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)” website, where the information contained in the above calendar was extracted. Again. Thank you Tim!

Without the help from the amateur radio community, the above calendar would not have been possible.

A better quality copy of the above calendar is available from the SEMDXA website. Here is a direct [LINK](#) to the calendar.

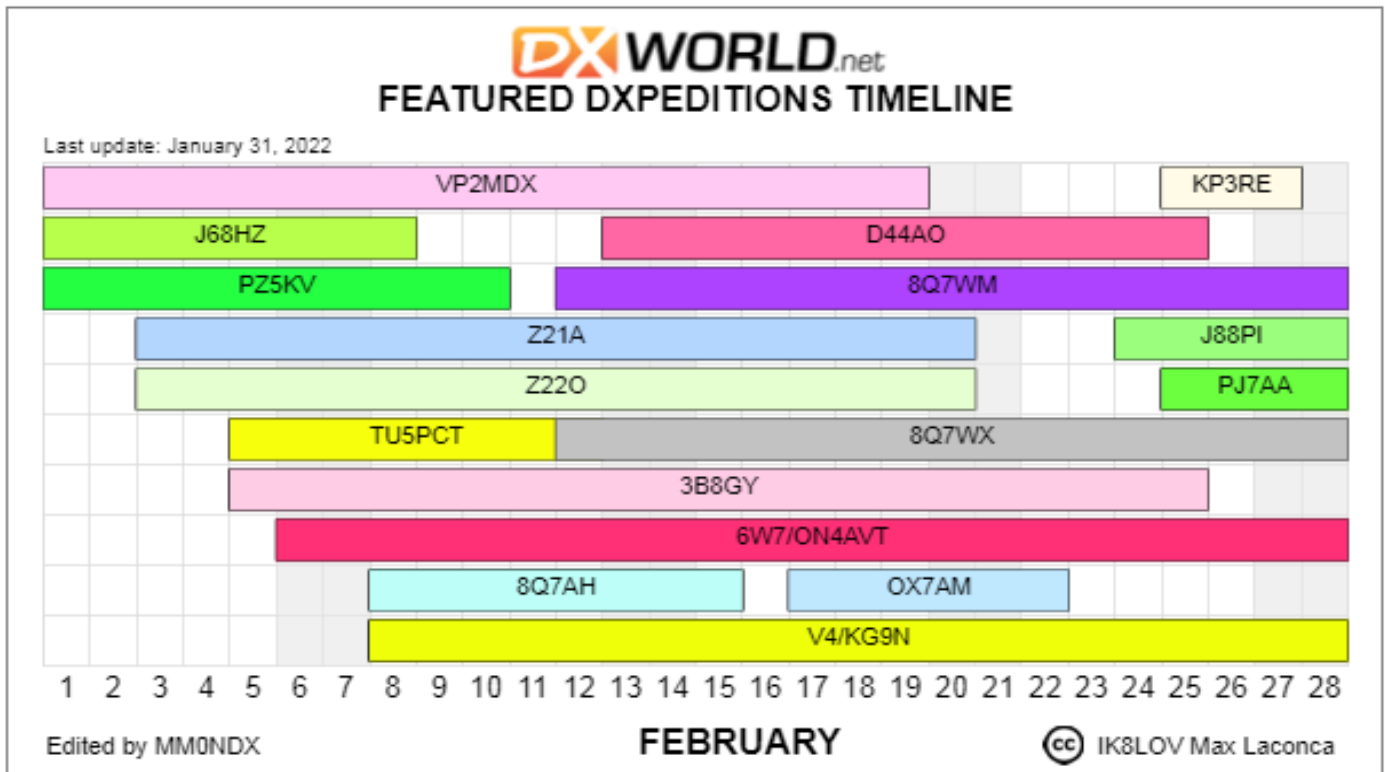
It is impossible to accommodate all the contests ongoing on any particular weekend (see WA7BNMs list). I hopefully have captured the most desirable entries which our club is interested in. See you in the pileups!

73,

Chet VE3CFK

Upcoming DX

Credit to DX World



DXCC Most Wanted 2021

DXCC Most wanted countries 2021 Club Log version. Updated 25 December 2021.



[Click here for link](#)

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

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio
Contest/DX Page

Start Date	End Date	DXCC Entity	Call	QSL via	Reported by
2022					
January					
2022 Jan01	2022 Feb22	Senegal	6W7 [spots]	F6HMJ	TDDX 20211227
2022 Jan04	2022 Feb06	Sint Maarten	PJ7 [spots]	LoTW	DXNews 20211219
2022 Jan09	2022 Feb18	Montserrat	VP2MDF [spots]	W2APF	TDDX 20211215
2022 Jan12	2022 Feb08	St Lucia	J68HZ [spots]	LoTW	TDDX 20220120
2022 Jan20	2022 Feb01	Guadeloupe	TO6S [spots]	F6KJS Direct	F5LRL 20211021
2022 Jan23	2022 Feb01	Aruba	P4 [spots]	DL4MM	DL4MM 20211020
2022 Jan28	2022 Feb03	Curacao	PJ2 [spots]	LoTW	DXW.Net 20220128
2022 Jan28	2022 Feb28	Cyprus	5B4AQC [spots]	LoTW	425DXN 20220128
February					
2022 Feb01	2022 Feb10	Surinam	PZ5KV	Club Log OQRS	DXW.Net 20220118
2022 Feb03	2022 Feb20	Zimbabwe	Z2	LoTW	DXNews 20211118
2022 Feb04	2022 Feb13	Ivory Coast	TU5PCT	LoTW	DXNews 20220111
2022 Feb06	2022 Feb28	Senegal	6W	Club Log OQRS	OPDX 20220121
2022 Feb08	2022 Feb15	Maldives	8Q7AH	LU4DXU	TDDX 20220120
2022 Feb08	2022 Mar01	St Kitts & Nevis	V4	LoTW	DXNews 20211014

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

2022 Feb12	2022 Feb15	Ogasawara	JD1	LoTW	TDDX 20220111
2022 Feb12	2022 Mar08	Maldives	8Q	Home Call	DXNews 20220121
ARRL International DX Contest, CW (Feb 19-20, 2022) Check here for pericontest activity too.					
2022 Feb24	2022 Mar08	St Vincent	J88PI	GW4DV B Direct	TDDX 20210823
2022 Feb25	2022 Feb27	Puerto Rico	KP3RE	EA5GL	KP3V 20211215
2022 Feb26	2022 Mar26	Sint Maarten	PJ7AA	AA9A	AA9A 20211219
March					
2022 Mar01	2022 Mar17	Curacao	PJ2	LoTW	DK5ON 20220130
2022 Mar01	2022 Mar31	Austral Is	FO		DXW.Net 20211203
ARRL International DX Contest, Phone (Mar 5-6, 2022) Check here for pericontest activity too.					
2022 Mar07	2022 Mar21	Turks & Cai- cos	VP5	LoTW	TDDX 20220120
CW WPX Contest, SSB (Mar 26-27, 2022) Check here for pericontest activity too.					
April					
2022 Apr01	2022 Apr15	Central Afri- can Rep	TL8AA	I2YSB	I2YSB 20210827
2022 Apr07	2022 Apr20	Burkina Faso	XT2MAX	EA5GL	DXW.Net 20220121
2022 Apr15	2022 Apr28	Austral Is	TX5N	LoTW	TDDX 20220101
2022 Apr26	2022 May04	Saba & Sint Eustatius	PJ5	LoTW	W5JON 20211230
May					
2022 May27	2022 Jun07	Gambia	C5B	LoTW	DXNews 20220131
CW WPX Contest, CW (May 28-29, 2022) Check here for pericontest activity too.					

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio
Contest/DX Page

June					
2022 Jun16	2022 Jul01	St Kitts & Nevis	V47JA	LoTW	W5JON 20211104
2022 Jun22	2022 Jun27	Jan Mayen	JX		DXW.Net 20211203
July					
2022 Jul02	2022 Jul09	Saba & Sint Eustatius	PJ5	LoTW	W5JON 20211104
October					
2022 Oct26	2022 Nov03	Cocos Keeling	VK9CM	EB7DX	VK6VY 20211208
CQ WW DX Contest, SSB (Oct 29-30, 2022) Check here for pericontest					
November					
2022 Nov01	2022 Nov29	Bouvet I	3Y0J	LoTW	DXW.Net 20210809
2022 Nov30	2022 Dec10	St Martin	TO9W	LoTW	DXNews 20220123
December					
2022 Dec15	2022 Dec31	Crozet	FT8/c	TBA	TDDX 20211028