

SEMDXA NEWSLETTER

PREZ Sez

Hi all, I'm looking forward to being President of SEMDEXA. It's a first for me to be President of an Amateur Radio club! A little about me. I'm pretty new to Ham Radio. I was licensed in the Spring of 2015. What I love most about the hobby is making DX contacts. I currently have made 196 contacts to different countries/entities. 175 are confirmed. My current station is the K3 line (K3, P3, KAT500, KPA500, 2 SP3 Speakers), an Elecraft K2 (I received for Christmas just before the Pandemic which was perfect timing for building the radio), an ICOM 703 MkIIG for my car with a Tarheel antenna. For antennas, I have dipole for 10-80 and I just installed a Gap Titan Vertical this summer that seems to be working very well on FT 8! Future plans are to install a tower using a Mosley TA-34-M (10, 15, 20) a Mosley 40 meter rotatable add-on and a Mosley TW-23-M (12, 17) and depending on the tower a 2 meter beam. Another thing I enjoy doing is building wood models. I have a few pictures of the first boat I built, an old Christ Craft Barrel Back. I have over 250 hours in building this boat. These will be the 2 hobbies I spend my time when I retire in about 3 or 3 ¹/₂ years!



73 and good DX Fred KD8ZYD



NEXT Meeting:

In-Person

November 9th, 2022 at 7 PM Fork n' Pint in Waterford

Program

Pete Gladysz K8PGJ

"Experiences from

PJ2T & ZF1A"

SEMDXA OFFICERS

President: Fred Goeckel, KD8ZYD Vice-president: Pete Gladysz, K8PGJ Treasurer: Brad Nowak, N8SNM Secretary: Vacant Program Director: Ted Pauck, K8NA and Steve Culp, K8QKY Directors: Doug N8VY and Bob K8RGM **Club Appointees:** *Web Site Editor*: Doug Basberg, N8VY 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 CO Checker: Mike Rudzki, N8MR

SEMDXA Meeting Minutes

of October 12th

By Chet, VE3CFK

The meeting started at 7:00 PM and was led by our President Fred, KD8ZYD.

Acceptance of meeting minutes for the September meeting as presented in the October issue of the Long Path was requested. With no comments or corrections, acceptance was motioned by Al, K8SIX and seconded by Tim, K8NWD.

Treasurers report was presented by Brad, N8SNM. Motion to accept by Chet, VE3CFK and seconded by Stan, AC8W.

New Business:

TN8K DXpedition is looking for funds to sponsor their DXpedition. SEMDXA normally sponsors the top 10 on the clubs "Most Wanted List", but it has not been updated in several years. Doug, N8VY has volunteered to orchestrate an online Top 10 census to update our list. Dave, K8ESQ motioned to accept and Alan, WD8PKF 2nded. Donation decision postponed to the November meeting.

Stan, AC8W provided feedback from the DX Advisory panel as follows:

- 4U1A country status—no change
- No new entities added or deleted
- DXCC rules re-examination scheduled for 2025
- Separate RTTY or Digital certificates are not planned. Although a request was made by an applicant to have "RTTY" stated on the certificate and request was granted.

The formal meeting ended at 7:13.

A power outage resulted in presentation delay.

Ted, K8NA, our program director, introduced our guest speaker for the evening—Adrian, KO8SCA. Adrain presented his DXpedition experience as K7K Kiska Island.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 with Fred, KD8ZYD motioning to close and Chet, VE3CFK seconding.

ZOOM MEETINGS

In person meetings have resumed. We are getting better at presenting ZOOM meetings. Really hope you can join us in person, but if you can't, please join our ZOOM meeting.

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=N0t3N1RpUFZj VGQzZHZwTnU0bHpuUT09

Cass Lake Rd OPEN

Several of our members have stated that Cass Lake Road construction has finished and that you can now access the Fork n' Pint from the south and north ends of Cass Lake Road. See you on the 11th.

10M alive & well

Yes it IS! For the last two weeks 10 meters has been hopping. A couple of DXpeditions from Benin and Togo have made it into my log, with Togo being a new one for me on 10 meters

Hopefully conditions will continue and everyone in the club will be rewarded with working Bouvet and Crozet Islands this winter. Come to think of it, Crozet should be on the air next month!

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Hope everyone has a marvelous Thanksgiving. Your editor and his XYL are heading to Naples Florida for the American Thanksgiving to celebrate with our friends in Naples. Hope you all can celebrate with friends and family as well. Cheers!

Membership Dues are Due

Brad, N8SNM reminds us that our membership dues for 2022/2023 are now due. His policy of NO IRC's or stamps or IOU's are being accepted this year either. "Online PayPal or in-person still works" Brad says.

A35GC - Tonga

Stan, LZ1GC and Ivan, LZ1PM have announced they will be active from Tonga as A35GC during November 2-20, 2022. The activity will be on all HF bands (160-6m, including 60m & WARC bands) on CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. Check out the full details here.

IDXC in Visalia, CA

Registrations for the convention and DX University is ongoing. Hotel reservations are being accepted as well although they are booking up pretty fast.

Your editor will be in attendance after a 3 year absence. Usually combine this trip with visiting my niece in LA and friend Jess, AI9L in Kingman, AZ.

NOT CANCELLED YET

Some things to look forward to:

- SEMDXA November in-person meeting at Fork n' Pint in Waterford on Wednesday, November 9th at 7:00 PM
- 2023 Hamvention
- December issue of The Long Path
- Thanksgiving, Christmas
- IDXC in Visalia, CA April 21-23

SEMDXA Christmas Luncheon

Just a friendly reminder that we still plan on having our Christmas Luncheon in December. There will be NO December club meeting. The luncheon date has not been set, but when it has, I'll send out an email reminder of when and where.

CY0S - Sable Is.

The 2023 Sable Island CY0S DXpedition team is very pleased to announce a very generous offer from a well known DXer and DXpeditioner. This DXer has offered to match any donations to the CY0S DXpedition from this point forward until arrival on the Island on March 20, 2023. For example, if a contributor donates \$100 to the DXpedition, this \$100 will then be matched for a total of \$200.! The DX'er making the match offer wishes to remain anonymous but wanted to support this DXpedition in a unique and special way. The CY0S team is very grateful and thankful for this tremendous show of support for our DXpedition effort.

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T88WA Palau update



First of all, a big thank you to DX Engineering for its emergency donation and shipping to Palau of an MFJ Ultrasonic RFI device for tracking down RF noise at the Bai near Choll Village where we were going to make our QTH. It was intractable S9 noise across all bands coming from underground cable and telephone wires running all along the island under the power poles.

Our big news after being shown six other sites is that we found a killer site with an expansive view across the ocean to North America. Our proprietor and her husband are very well connected in Palau and Arlene won't take no for an answer. All business here is transacted based on relationships. Arlene called the Governor and arranged a meeting for Rob N7QT with the governor to explain what we are doing and why we need him to shut down this public site for the duration of our DXpedition. He and Rob are now on first name terms and both are happy with the negotiated price.

The team has taken down the Big IR vertical tested at our resort (worse noise than the Bai) and is removing the Hexbeam at the Bai and packing up our 1500 pounds of gear for transport to our new "Field Day" site. Unlike the Bai we will not have air conditioning but will be operating outdoors in steamy conditions under a summer shelter using mosquito netting to protect us and tarps to protect our equipment from the regular squalls. We will use the 2000w 240V generator we shipped and will be renting or purchasing a 6000w generator likely delivered tomorrow from Koror. So, if all goes well, the team will have three stations to keep running 24 hours per day. We will work out a new commute schedule between QTH and resort. Additional operational and survival logistics are being worked out. We can't report on every detail of the twists and turns of our continuing attempts to get on the air, but an episode of Survivor was filmed here so we decided to call our adventure episode Ham Radio DXpedition Survivor.

We reasonably expect sometime tomorrow we will get our first station on the air and continue building out the antenna field from there. We know the high bands have been hopping and we are also going to work hard to bring you the low bands, including 60m FT8.

Team T88WA

J28MD - Djibouti



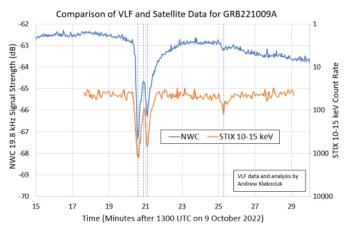
Team has reached 50K QSOs. Here's IZ8CCW & KO8SCA operating together. They'll be in Djibouti until November 7th. There will be no 6m operating today but they will try the 6m Band again tomorrow (Friday). Last night they worked on the 5mhz (60m) Band and logged around 650 stations."

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Gamma Rays

POWERFUL GAMMA-RAY BURST MADE CURRENTS FLOW IN THE EARTH: Astronomers

have never seen anything like it. On Oct. 9, 2022, Earthorbiting satellites detected the strongest gamma-ray burst (GRB) in modern history: GRB221009A. How strong was it? It caused electrical currents to flow through the surface of our planet. Dr. Andrew Klekociuk in Tasmania recorded the effect using an <u>Earth Probe Antenna</u>:

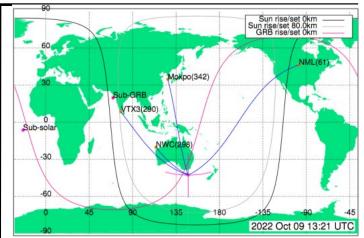


The blue curve is a signal from Klekociuk's antenna, which was sensing VLF (very low frequency) currents in the soil at the time of the blast. The orange curve shows the gamma-ray burst recorded by the STIX telescope on Europe's Solar Orbiter spacecraft, one of many spacecraft that detected the event. The waveforms are a nearly perfect match.

"I am a climate scientist at the Australian Antarctic Divisionthat's my day job," says Klekociuk. "VLF is my hobby. I started doing VLF radio measurements in the 1970's when I was in high school. This is the first time I have detected a gamma-ray burst."

Klekociuk's unusual "ham rig" uses Earth itself as a giant antenna. In his back garden there are two metal spikes stuck into the ground 75 meters apart. They are connected to a receiver via buried wires. In recent years amateur radio operators have been experimenting with this weird kind of antenna to detect VLF radio signals circling our planet in the Earth-ionosphere waveguide. Earth's crust forms one of the waveguide's walls, allowing Earth Probe Antennas to detect distant transmitters.

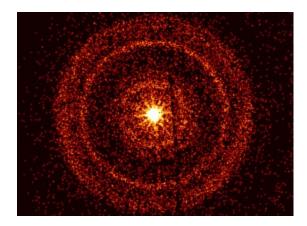
"During the gamma-ray burst I detected flickering from multiple stations," says Klekociuk, who made this map showing transmission paths illuminated by the GRB:



Researchers have known since 1983 that gamma-ray bursts can ionize Earth's atmosphere and, thus, disturb the great waveguide. This appears to be the first time anyone has recorded the effect using an Earth Probe Antenna.

The outburst on Oct. 9th shocked astronomers. Consider this tweet from Phil Evans of the University of Leicester: "It's bright. Really bright. Like, stupidly really bright." Evans works with data from NASA's Swift gamma-ray observatory, and the overflowing signal had apparently broken some of his plotting software.

Data from NASA spacecraft have since pinpointed the burst. It came from a dusty galaxy 2.4 billion light years away, almost certainly triggered by a supernova explosion giving birth to a black hole. This is actually the closest GRB ever recorded,



"In our research group, we've been referring to this burst as the 'BOAT', or Brightest Of All Time," says Jillian Rastinejad, an astronomer at Northwestern University who has been monitoring the burst's afterglow using the Gemini South Telescope in Chile. "When you look at the thousands of bursts gamma-ray telescopes have been detecting since the 1990s, this one really stands apart."

Meanwhile, other observers in the UK and Germany have also reported ionospheric disturbances resulting from the burst. They all used regular above-ground antennas.

2.4 billion light years away... Now that's DXing.

THE LONG PATH

6M Award

Your editor came across an interesting article (well, it was interesting to me anyway) in the May 2022 issue of CQ magazine. Below is a (poor) iphone image from the magazine showing the 6M Scatter award that is available by making 10 contacts with any "anchor station" within a 6-month timeframe. See Table 1 below for a list of contact stations. What caught my eye was that a local ham to me (he lives 6 mile away) Larry, VE3EDY is an anchor station. If you recall from a previous 6M announcement here in the Long Path, I noted that Larry, VE3EDY and Al, K8SIX were the only two hams that worked Australia on 6M this past July.



Photo C. Meteor Scatter Mornings certificate for working at least 10 of the group's "anchor stations" within six months via 6-meter meteor scatter (CW or voice only)

Table 1

Meteor Scatter Mornings Anchor Stations as of March, 2022

Alabama - N4WXU, K4WI Cayman Islands - ZF1EJ Connecticut - WZ1V Florida - KZ4RR, W4ICU, KZ4TT Georgia - K4CKS Indiana - K9DRG, W9FNB Kentucky - W9DR Louisiana - KE5JXC Michigan - W8JER, N8JGG Minnesota - KØGUV, KØKIF Missouri - KØKKO North Carolina - W4MW Ohio - WZ8D, KW8F Ontario - VE3EDY Tennessee - W4HLR Texas - W3UUM, NZ5F Virginia - KG4HOT, N4ASF, KD4AA W4TJ Wisconsin - K9KHW, W9NHE Wyoming - K7TNT

3Y0J - Bouvet Is.



Last week 3Y0J team completed their 2nd vessel inspection in Itajai, Brazil! This was again an inspection done by an experienced 3rd party inspector.

Focus was on

- finalizing the vessel loading plan
- securing the loading of 6800 kg of equipment and fuel on Marama
- close the punch list from the previous vessel inspection

Everything is now ready for our arrival in VP8!!

Marama will depart from Itajai to Ushuaia next week. Then continue on a 27 day sailing cruise to Antarctica before returning to Ushuaia Dec 21st. The crew will then rest and celebrate Christmas before the 3YØJ team embark January 12th in Port Stanley.

3Y0J Pilots announced:

CHIEF PILOT - EU PILOT: MORTEN LA3MHA

NA EAST COAST PILOT: STEVE N2AJ

NA WEST COAST PILOT: RICH KE1B

SA PILOT: SISO HK3W

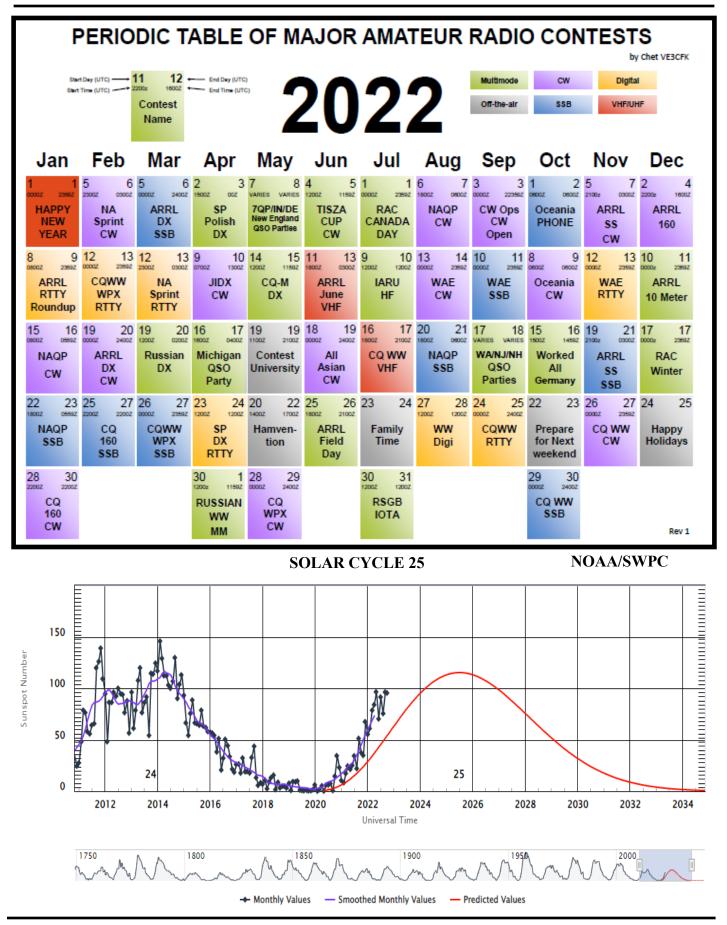
VK/ZL/OC PILOT: LEE VK3GK

JA/AS PILOT: TO BE CONFIRMED SOON (AWAITING CONFIRMATION)

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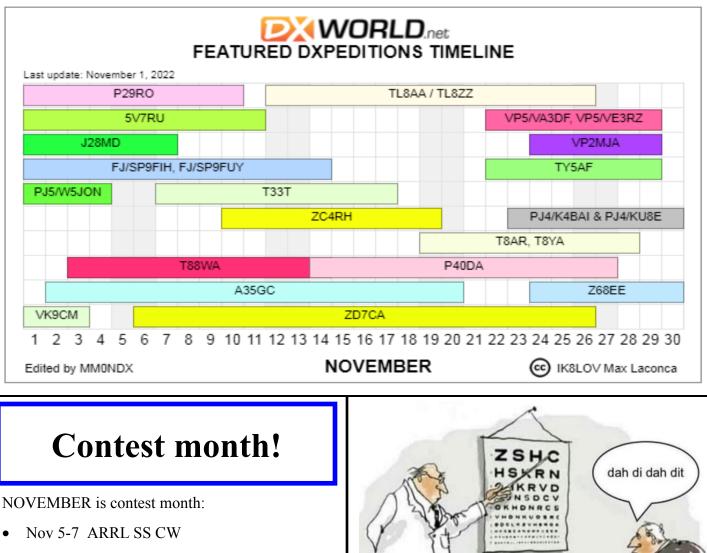
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SEMDXA Web Site: www.semdxa.org

Upcoming DX

Credit to DX World

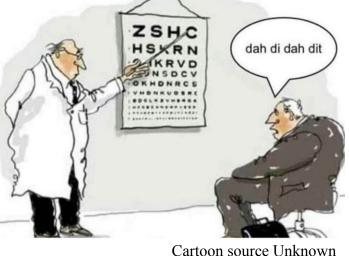


- Nov 12 13 WAE RTTY
- Nov 19 21 ARRL SS SSB
- Nov 26-27 CQ WW CW

Are You READY?

Hamfest Calender

12/3-22 - Fulton County Winterfest, Archbold, OH 12/4/22 - USECA, Troy, MI



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

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	<u>End</u>	<u>DXCC</u>	<u>Call</u>	QSL	Reported		
Date	<u>Date</u>	<u>Entity</u>	<u></u>	via	by		
2022							
Oct	ober						
2022 Oct14	2022 Nov03	Sierra Leone	9LYJD1 [spots]	G0EWI	<u>TDDX</u> 20221026		
2022 Oct19	2022 Nov29	Malawi	7Q6M [spots]	LoTW	<u>TDDX</u> 20220929		
2022 Oct20	2022 Nov03	Turks & Cai- cos	VP5 [spots]	LoTW	DXW.Net 20221020		
2022 Oct24	2022 Nov06	Madagascar	5R8AS [spots]	LoTW	<u>TDDX</u> 20221026		
2022 Oct25	2022 Nov04	Saba & Sint Eustatius	<u>PJ5</u>	LoTW	W5JON		
			[spots]		20211230		
2022 Oct25	2022 Nov10	Papua New Guinea	<u>P29RO</u>	LoTW	DL7VEE		
		Guinea	[spots]		20220901		
2022 Oct26	2022 Nov03	Cocos Keel- ing	VK9CM [spots]	EB7DX	VK6VY 20211208		
2022 Oct28	2022 Nov11	Тодо	<u>5V7RU</u> [spots]	LoTW	KN7Y 20221022		
<u>CQ WW DX Contest, SSB (Oct 29-30, 2022) Check here for pericontest activi-</u>							
2022 Oct29	2022 Nov07	Djibouti	J28MD [spots]	LoTW	DXW.Net 20220417		
2022 Oct29	2022 Nov14	St Barthelemy	<u>FJ</u>	Club Log OQRS	SP9FIH		
Novo	mber		[spots]		20221021		
2022 Nov01	2022 Nov30	Thailand	HS0ZME	SM6NT	<u>TDDX</u> 20221011		
2022 Nov01	2022 Nov15	Banaba I	T33T	LoTW	<u>TDDX</u> 20221021		
2022 Nov02	2022 Nov06	Mariana Is	[spots] WH0RU [spots]	LoTW	<u>TDDX</u> 20221031		
2022 Nov02	2022 Nov07	Lesotho	7P8CW [spots]	LoTW	DXNews 20220524		

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Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2022 Nov02	2022 Nov09	Kuwait	9K2F [spots]	LoTW	<u>TDDX</u> 20221031	
2022 Nov02	2022 Nov14	Palau	T88WA [spots]	LoTW	DXW.Net 20220723	
2022 Nov02	2022 Nov20	Tonga	<u>A35GC</u> [spots]	TBA	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20220803	
2022 Nov03	2022 Nov04	Lesotho	7P8DG	Club Log OQRS	<u>TDDX</u> 20221102	
2022 Nov03	2022 Nov06	Tanzania	5H2JC [spots]	LoTW	DXW.Net 20221006	
2022 Nov05	2022 Nov26	St Helena	ZD7CA	HB9FIY	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20221010	
2022 Nov10	2022 Nov14	Cyprus SBA	ZC4RH	LoTW	<u>TDDX</u> 20221031	
2022 Nov12	2022 Nov26	Central Afri- can Rep	<u>TL8AA</u>	I2YSB	I2YSB 20220405	
2022 Nov14	2022 Nov27	Aruba	<u>P40DA</u>	PA7DA Buro	<u>TDDX</u> 20221003	
2022 Nov23	2022 Dec04	Palau	T88PB	JA0JHQ	DXW.Net 20220607	
2022 Nov23	2022 Nov30	Honduras	HR5	LoTW	<u>TDDX</u> 20220929	
CQ WW DX Contest, CW (Nov 26-27, 2022) Check here for pericontest activ-						
2022 Nov30	2022 Dec05	Palau	T88RC	LoTW	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20221015	
2022 Nov30	2022 Dec09	St Martin	<u>TO9W</u>	LoTW	<u>DXNews</u> 20220123	
December						
2022 Dec10	2022 Dec16	Bangladesh	S21DX	LoTW	<u>TDDX</u> 20220905	
2022 Dec15	2022 Dec31	Crozet	FT8/c	ТВА	<u>TDDX</u> 20211028	
2022 Dec29	2023 Jan05	Norfolk I	VK9MTO	ZL1MTO	DXW.Net 20221023	

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Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2023						
January						
2023 Jan02	2023 Jan31	Montserrat	VP2MDX	LoTW	<u>TDDX</u> 20220508	
2023 Jan03	2023 Jan21	Cape Verde Is	<u>D44TWO</u>	LoTW	<u>TDDX</u> 20221013	
2023 Jan07	2023 Jan21	Congo	<u>TN8K</u>	LoTW	DXW.Net 20220916	
2023 Jan13	2023 Jan20	Palau	Т8	See Info	DXW.Net 20220706	
2023 Jan15	2023 Mar15	Martinique	FM	LoTW	<u>TDDX</u> 20221013	
2023 Jan23	2023 Feb28	Bouvet I	<u>3Y0J</u>	LoTW	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20210809	
2023 Jan20	2023 Jan27	Palau	Т8	Home Call	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20221010	
Febr	February					
2023 Feb10	2023 Mar08	Solomon Is	H44MS	DL2GAC	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20221029	
2023 Feb15	2023 Feb21	St Vincent	<u>18</u>	LoTW	PA2LO 20220911	
2023 Feb28	2023 Mar05	San Andres & Providencia	нко	LoTW	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20220902	
Ма	rch			1 1		
2023 Mar01	2023 Mar11	Galapagos	<u>HC8M</u>	See Web	<u>TDDX</u> 20220627	
2023 Mar04	2023 Apr01	St Martin	PJ7AA	LoTW	<u>TDDX</u> 20220711	
2023 Mar12	2023 Mar19	Dominican Republic	HIOLT	EB7DX	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20221019	
2023 Mar20	2023 Mar29	Sable I	<u>CYOS</u>	LoTW	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20220710	