

April Fool

GOTCHA!

Ha Ha Ha

Antenna Wax-Page 6

BREAKING NEWS

PPOT Start Date Change

See Page 13

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NFDXA Meeting
5pm Sat April 16
St Johns Seafood
Lane Ave, Jax



The North Florida DX Association

PileUp

The NFDXA Newsletter



Volume 3 Number 4

April 2011

<http://nfdxa.com/>

NFDXA 'Tiger' Team Prevents VP5DX Tower Disaster 'Rotted' Tower Section Holding SteppIR Was Poised to Collapse



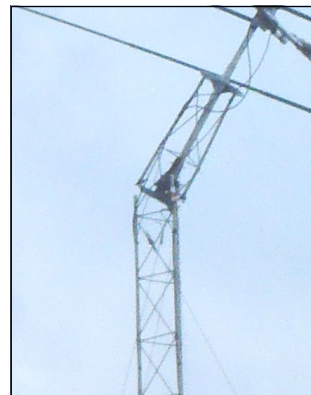
Early last month N4KE received a photo taken of the SteppIR antenna atop the 70-foot Alumina tower at his Whale Watch QTH in Middle Caicos. The picture — taken by a member of the company that manages the Whale Watch property— showed the top section of the VP5DX tower from the rotor base plate on up bent over at a crazy angle.

Appearances indicated the coax and rotor control cable was all

that was keeping the tower section with its 58 pound 3-element SteppIR antenna from falling off altogether.

Within hours a three man 'Tiger Team' of **Ron, N4KE; Jim, NU4Y** and **Steve, AB4UF** was formed to attempt a 'rescue' and do whatever repair they could. .

But tensions mounted throughout another nail-biting week until Whale Watch—which the management team had rented out—was open again and they could go down and start work.. Fortunately, no high winds or other severe weather occurred during this delay. When the team arrived they found the bent-over top section still in place, but just barely.



Storm Damages N4KE QTH

N4KE's antennas have been taking a beating of late, first the SteppIR array at VP5DX (See adjacent story) and most recently the one at his Keystone QTH on Little Lake Santa Fe.

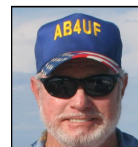
According to Ron, a tornado spawned by the intense front that moved through Florida in early April went through his property. Eighty-five mile and hour winds took down a couple 80 ft pines and three big oaks that cut his dock in half and messed up the deck. Ron added, "(We lost) lots of shingles off the lake side of house, and one element from the Stepper.....We could not get out of our drive, the county had to come to our rescue.....We weathered it ok and are almost back to normal."



Ron N4KE

Ron picks up the story from there. "Once on the ground (we did) a review of our island engineering alternatives -- along with a few rum punches!" The 'review' extended to a full day when stormy weather moved, preventing any work on the dangling array, raising tensions even more..

However, a closer look revealed the three "Z" leg braces on the bent-over section were intact and taking the strain; not the rotor cable and coax as had initially been feared. But the tower section's legs were obviously stubs—the joint sections were missing entirely. According to Steve, AB4UF, on the ground crew, "The legs were gone! They were completely rotted away." -Continued page 4



Steve AB4UF



NFDXA OFFICERS 2011

The North Florida DX Association, Inc., is a group of Amateur Radio Operators located primarily in northeast Florida whose main Ham Radio interests are DXing and Contests. The NFDXA generally meets monthly on a date and location selected by an organizer picked for that meeting. The following officers were elected for the calendar year 2011.

President

Warren Croke, NW4C nw4c@cox.net

Vice President

Cory McDonald, NIWON n1won@hotmail.com

Secretary

Mike Reublin, NF4L nf4l@nf4l.com

Treasurer

Jim Hughes, KC4FWS kc4fws@comcast.net

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee consists of the elected officers of the Association <http://www.nfdxa.com>

Editor, NFDXA *PileUp* Newsletter

Warren Croke, NW4C nw4c@cox.net

PileUp story ideas, manuscripts and photographs should be sent to nw4c@cox.net

Secretary's Report Mar 12, 2011 NFDXA Meeting

This meeting was at Athens Café' 03/12/2011

Name	Call	Attend	Name	Call	Attend
Steve Brown	AB4UF	N	Dale Conner	N4NN	N
John Hale	AC4ET	N	Billy Williams	N4UF	N
Larry Junstrom	K4EB	N	Mike Reublin	NF4L	Y
Dick Hicks	K4UTE	Y	Dave Mains	NO4J	N
John Silberman	KB4CRT	N	Jim Iori	NU4Y	Y
Jim Hughes	KC4FWS	Y	Warren Croke	NW4C	Y
Bill Walker	KX4WW	N	Pres Graham	W4FDA	N
Cory McDonald	NIWON	Y	Bob Lightner	W4GJ	Y
Mike Parnin	N4EPD	Y	John Moore	W5HUQ	N
Ron Tivey	N4GFO	N	Steve Barber	WA4B	Y
Joe Barnes	N4JBK	N	David Price	WA4ET	Y
Ron Blake	N4KE	N	Dick Knox	WR4K	N

Total Members Attending 10

— Secretary's Report continued next page



March 12 Meeting Pictures, Athens Café' Jacksonville



Top Foto L-R— David, WA4ET; Diana Fruge' (David's guest); Larry, K3LB; Cory, NIWON; Danijala Sarac (aka 'Sugar Five' calling meeting to order?); Mike (lower right and overexposed), NF4L. **Bottom Row L-R—** Steve, WA4B (taking aim); Jim, KC4FWS; Jim, NU4Y; Bob ('Red Eye'), W4GJ and Richard, K4UTE



Next NFDXA Meeting 5 pm Sat, Apr 16, St Johns Seafood

Secretary's Report—March Meeting, continued



The meeting was called to order by **Warren, NW4C** at 7:10 pm.
Treasurer Jim KC4FWS reported a balance of: \$942.18. All dues are paid.
 Expenditures include Web site, Corporation fees, and Half Marathon prize.

Unfinished business - There was a motion made and passed that the prize for the current Full Marathon club contest be \$30.00.

Jim, KC4FWS brought the new club shirts.

New business - **Larry Bostic, K3LB** (See picture/Ham bio on page) was elected to membership. **Larry** spoke briefly about his ham radio accomplishments, and his living in various foreign countries.

Dave, WA4ET, announced he will be dismantling his station pursuant to a move, and would appreciate help.

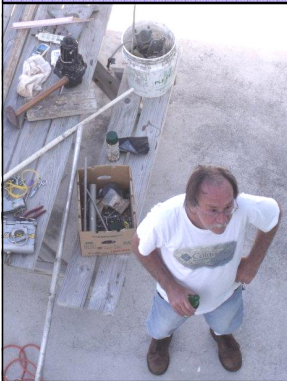
Guests: Dave, WA4ET brought **Diana Fruge`** as his guest.

The next meeting planner is: **Mike, NF4L**

The meeting was adjourned at 8pm



VP5DX Tower Rescue — From page 1



Jim NU4Y

Once up the tower and after taking a closer look Ron confirmed Steve's observation, saying "...The interaction of dissimilar metals along with a touch of salt air (had) caused the rotor plate u-bolts to eat totally through the tower legs. The only thing holding the antenna to the tower were the three cross braces!"

The plan devised by the trio was to get the bent section straightened back up as much as possible using a gin pole made by Steve that had been stored on the Whale Watch property from previous VP5DX operations. Then once the bent-over section was straightened a rope would be attached to it and using the gin pole as a crane, the restraining Z-bar would be cut through and the section lowered with Jim, NU4Y and Steve taking the strain.

Ron picks up the narrative from that point. "We were able to get the top three feet of the tower along with antenna upright with (the) gin pole and (with) AB4UF & Jim, NU4Y (taking the strain) on the work end of the rope.... I carefully cut through the three cross braces, and I mean carefully. (We) then worked it slowly to the ground without killing anyone in the process!" *(Editor's note: Killing is not good! Otherwise this report would have a completely different angle!)*

Once everything was on the ground the team completely re-engineered the top section. The rotor plate was re-installed, this time with pvc pipe cover and electrical tape separating the dissimilar metals part of the mount.

This re-engineered arrangement was then dropped inside of what remained of the Aluma tower's original top section which had been stored under the house. That left about 3 feet extending out the top which then clamped to each other with stainless house clamps.

The team decided to leave the 3-element SteppIR antenna down close to ground level for the duration of the coming storm season. The antenna is stored place by attaching it to the tower base section about six feet up from the ground, a height that didn't seem to bother its performance that much. Said Ron, "At only 6 feet above ground we were working FR5's, ET's, and just about everything barefoot. A little water seems to help!" — *More pictures next page*



Stored NFDXA Gin Pole



'Rotted' off tower legs

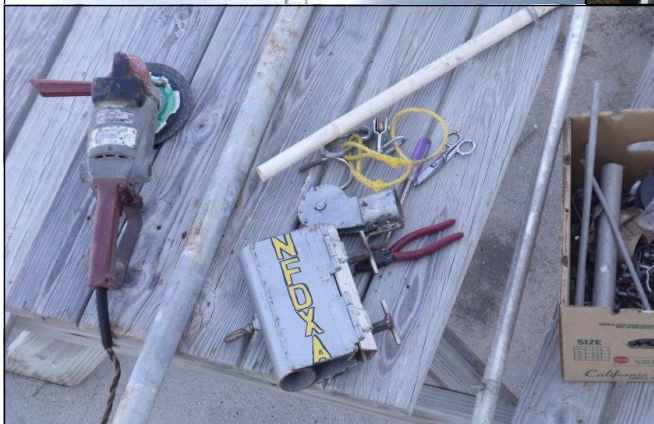


'New Look?'



VP5DX SteppIR secured at 6 feet ABG until October

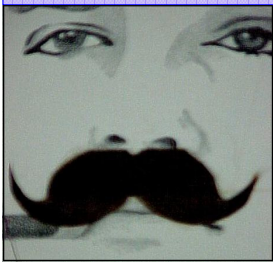
More VP5DX 'Towers 'n SteppIRs R Us' Pictures



Upper Left— VP5DX Tower and SteppIR antenna from below before repairs Tower section and array being held on by Z-bars
Middle, top to bottom— Tiger Team leader, Tower Monkey and VP5DX trustee Ron, N4KE; Main Handyman, Machinist and Mission Photographer Steve, AB4UF; Master Chef, Chief Cook, Electronics Tech and Heineken Connoisseur (Father) Jim, NU4Y
Upper Right, top— Coat-hanger (?) emergency repair (courtesy of Main Handyman AB4UF) to VP5DX deep fryer— Just gotta have those NU4Y Hush Puppies and French Fries
Upper Right, bottom— Broken off leg to tower top section-thrust-bearing. Requires aluminum welding to fix properly
Middle left— Grinder, gin pole parts, pliers and an assortment of small hands tools. You make do with what you have . . .
Bottom left— Temp top section with replacement bearing
Bottom right— Until October this will be the new 'VP5DX Empty Tower Look' for the duration of the Hurricane Season



A New Approach to Antenna Wax — by R. Shannon Boal, K4GLM



R. Shannon Boal, K4GLM, is a Radio Technician with the Alachua County Florida Sheriffs department. In real life. In his 'other' life' he currently serves as president of the **Gainesville Amateur Radio Society (GARS)**. Shannon has extensive personal experience with Mustache Wax, as shown in the idealized self-portrait on the left. This experience has been acquired over much of his adult life. Based on assortment of experiments conducted over the years—some of which he actually remembered when he woke up—Shannon developed a number of applications for this unique product that have a strong and direct connection to Amateur Radio, namely its use as a direct replacement for antenna wax. — Article reprinted from April 2009 PileUp.



Often I learn more from accident than when I get the expected results. As you may or may not know, I make my own mustache wax. It is cooked in a double boiler on the stove, slowly adding the ingredients and cooling; then testing and adding a bit more of what-ever is lacking. It was inevitable that I would try heating it in the microwave oven to cut down on the time consuming heating process. One of the ingredients has a surprising quality. Beeswax does not heat in a microwave! You can nuke the heck out of it and not melt it.

Other waxes found in mustache wax could be paraffin, carnauba wax and nano-wax. Nano-wax is used in the latest car waxes where it gives a long-lasting shine without hard rubbing. Nano-wax was produced from the new Nano-technology coming out of sub-atomic physics.

At the University of Florida, physicists custom design atoms and molecules to produce physical properties that do not exist in nature. Guess what? Nano-wax can be highly reactive to RF! It has electrolytic properties the opposite of inert Beeswax. It can produce either inductive or capacitive reactance in a pure conductor when its sub-atomic particles are manipulated in the correct way.

Are you seeing the possibilities here? My next experiment was to coat my vertical antenna with beeswax. This aluminum pipe is three inches in diameter and eighty-four feet tall. It is used for low-band DX. Now the noise level on seventy five meters seems much lower with the beeswax coating. I can't do the proper "A and B" testing of course but the stations I worked say my audio is better than ever, what-ever that means.

Well, I have two other formulations to try, so I cleaned off the North-East side of the pipe and have re-coated it with the capacitive Nano-wax....and coated the South-West side with inductive Nano-wax. The results were successful beyond my wildest dreams! I have a signal beaming into Siberia with reports of S-9 plus from QRP power levels, and even lower receive noise than before.

I have a few problems of course. The bees love this stuff and are pests when climbing the aluminum pipe. (Coat this starting at the top and working down so you don't slip!) And the paper-work is just starting in the patent process but promises to be years of up-hill struggle. (They laughed at me in the patent office, can you believe it?) The patent officials insisted that I tell them how to make the wax before they'll proceed. I am no fool, though. I told them "IT'S NANO YOUR BEESWAX

—Happy April 1st Y'all...73 Shannon, K4GLM



Shannon K4GLM

Bell Labs Develops Tiny Cellular Antenna

A team of researchers at Alcatel-Lucent's Bell Labs has designed and built a cell-site in a two-inch cube, a development that could revolutionize the way cellphone calls and data are routed. According to a Bell Labs news release and news reports, the LightRadio™ cube consists of three stacked circuit boards - one each for the antenna, the radio and the network connection - and it would not have to sit on top of a tall tower. It is estimated that wide-scale deployment of these devices could increase network capacity by up to 30 percent and reduce or eliminate the need for controversial cell towers.

Connection to ham radio? The possibility for adaptation to the amateur repeater network and the potential for changes in some restrictive antenna ordinances, many of which were enacted in response to the building of cell site towers.



Welcome Aboard K3LB



The NFDXA's newest member is **Larry Bostic, K3LB**, whose voice is familiar to those who took part the Wednesday night NFDXA 80 Meter Net back when it ran on a regular basis. He was a frequent check-in from his Nashville, GA QTH and over time his voice became well-known to many in the membership before he started driving down to Jacksonville to sit in on the club's monthly meetings.

Larry's bio on QRZ.com reads: "I have retired to South Georgia to

fish, play golf, and chase DX for a while after twenty-six years in the U.S. Navy (I flew P-3 Orions) and fourteen years as a Systems Engineer. I plan to build as many wire antennas as my three acres of trees will hold in order to work three hundred countries, as well as rag chew with anyone who is awake and on forty meters early in the morning."

Larry informs us: "I am primarily a CW enthusiast but I do have a microphone and can use it if I have to." His comfortable shack boasts an impressive set-up which guarantees he'll be in the mix and often heard in the DX pileups (Check the ones he's already worked in the NFDXA 2011 Club Marathon—Ed.).

L3LB's station includes an IC-7700 and an Ameritron ALB-1500 with an SB-220 serving as back-up. A classic Johnson Matchbox and Drake MN-2000 Tuners ensure a good match to his wire antennas farm which includes a 20-Meter Loop, 30-Meter Dipole and a 40-Meter Quad. Sadly, many of his wire antennas were destroyed during an early April storm that left him without power for 18 hours. But power has since been restored and he's now in the process of rebuilding the antennas.

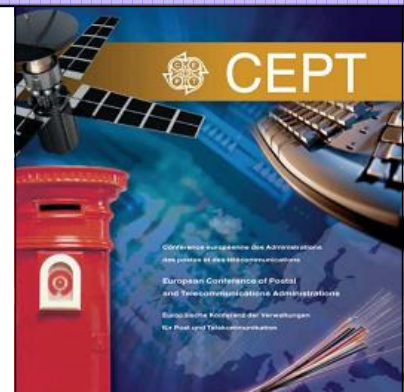
A 100-foot tower had been put up just prior to the storm but, fortunately, was not damaged but the hear-hurricane force wind gusts. What antennas will eventually be installed on the tower has not been determined.

Larry's original call sign was **WA4DYA**. He was often DX himself during his long Navy career and at various times has held the calls, **CT2BZ**, **ZD8BZ**, **VP9BZ**, and **DA1WV**.

Russian Federation Joins CEPT

Many hams from the US and Europe visiting Russia should find it easier to operate there, as the Russian Federation has decided to join the CEPT (Council of European Post and Telecommunications administrations) agreement on amateur radio licensing.

No effective date has been announced. According to a posting on the Southgate Amateur Radio Club's news page, officials of IARU Region 1 consider the decision "a major step forward to achieve worldwide radio amateur roaming." American hams holding Extra or Advanced Class licenses may operate in CEPT countries without special permission. General Class licensees have restricted privileges. Novices and Technicians have none. For information on operating by US hams in CEPT countries, visit www.arrl.org/ce



**A murderous vile form of hex... On lunkheads from Extras to Techs...
Who sit by the hour ... And turn the bands sour**

With nothing but CQ DX!

— Rod Newkirk, *How's DX?* QST May 1965



Above: When all else has failed, read the instructions...
Below: Installing the linear loading wires



New WARC Beam at NIWON

It was 'Antennas 'R Us' recently at the Melrose QTH of **NIWON** as **Cory**, along with **Warren, NW4C**, spent a weekend assembling a Force 12 1-2-2 WARC Tri-bander for 30-17-12 meters. The beam went together without major problems although both acknowledged they hadn't seen that many pop rivets outside a hardware store in quite some time!

A unique feature of this antenna is the wire linear loading system used to resonate the 30 meter bands. With the exception of the 30-meter element the antenna is relatively small in comparison to the Force 12 XR5 20-17-15-12-10 meter version.

The boom is only a scant 8 feet in length giving the array a fairly small turning radius.

Cory plans to mate the antenna shortly to a Hazer Transit System which will be on a separate tower located about 50 yards from his existing 20-15-10 meter set-up, another Force 12 atop an E-Z Way 60 foot crank-up/tilt over tower.

"I want to get everything finished and on the tower," says Cory, "Maybe even by this weekend (Apr 16)." NIWON's urgency is understandable as he needs three more entities to make the Honor Roll.



The antenna was assembled atop two sawhorses placed in the shade—thank goodness—in Cory's back yard.
Note the shortness of the antenna's boom, only 8 feet



Bad Motor on NF4L SteppIR

Back in December, **NF4L** noticed he had high SWR everywhere he tuned on his SteppIR. After a few hours on the phone **Mike** and SteppIR technicians reached the conclusion that the driven element had stopped moving and was stuck at some indeterminate length. As Mike noted, "Best I could figger, it was resonant around 22 Mhz."

The antenna needed a new motor unit. And the replacement could only be made on the ground

So the decision was made to separate the SteppIR from the mast it shared with a 6 meter 'Long John' array and lower it to the ground in one piece using a crane. The SteppIR is quite large; the boom is 32' and the elements are 36'. (See picture at right)

The man on the tower is **Tom Harrold, WW4US**, a veteran of a number of NFDXA installations in the Jacksonville area.

The 100-foot crane was rented from J & J Crane Company and was operated by Joe Childress. His crane rig weighed in at 52,000 pounds, but Mike noted his driveway survived with no apparent damage. The entire job from start to finish took 45 minutes, "Smooth as Owl snot", Mike opined.

The two-man ground crew was **Steve Barber, WA4B** and **Steve Brown, AB4UF**.

— NF4L photo



KT-36 'Conversion' to KT-34



Pictured above is another NFDXA antenna project-in-progress, this one a conversion by **Larry, K4EB** of a classic KT-36 into a space-saving (by comparison) KT-34.) According to **Larry**, "I wanted an antenna for my place in Jacksonville and came across a good deal on a pre-owned KT-36. But the '36 was too big for the lot. So in between road trips with the band — working on my 'retirement plan', you might say — I'm cutting it down to fit the space available." One could also say this is yet another example that Hams in general and DXers in particular are a uniquely innovative lot and will do whatever is necessary to get the job done—even if it means altering a so-called classic. — *K4EB photo*

FCC LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE IN BETA TEST



The Federal Communications Commission has launched a complete overhaul of the agency's web site. In making the announcement the regulatory agency says that the new design will improve and simplify the FCC website experience for consumers, government, public safety agencies and the business community.

The Commission says that its new web site design was shaped by public feedback and sharpened through an ongoing conversation with users over the past several months. It also represents the Commission's first overhaul of its main web site in more than a decade. You can try it for yourself at <http://www.fcc.gov/> (FCC)

MILITARY RADIO: SHORTWAVE AIMED AT LIBYAN NAVY

It appears that short wave radio has gone to war in Libya. There are reports that High Frequency radio transmissions are reportedly playing a part in the U-N's Operation Odyssey Dawn.

According to international shortwave news reports, 6.877 MHz is being used as an airborne announce channel, possibly from a Commando Solo Aircraft. The messages being broadcast are directed at commanding Libyan naval officers. They reportedly-and not so subtly- order them not to board their ships.

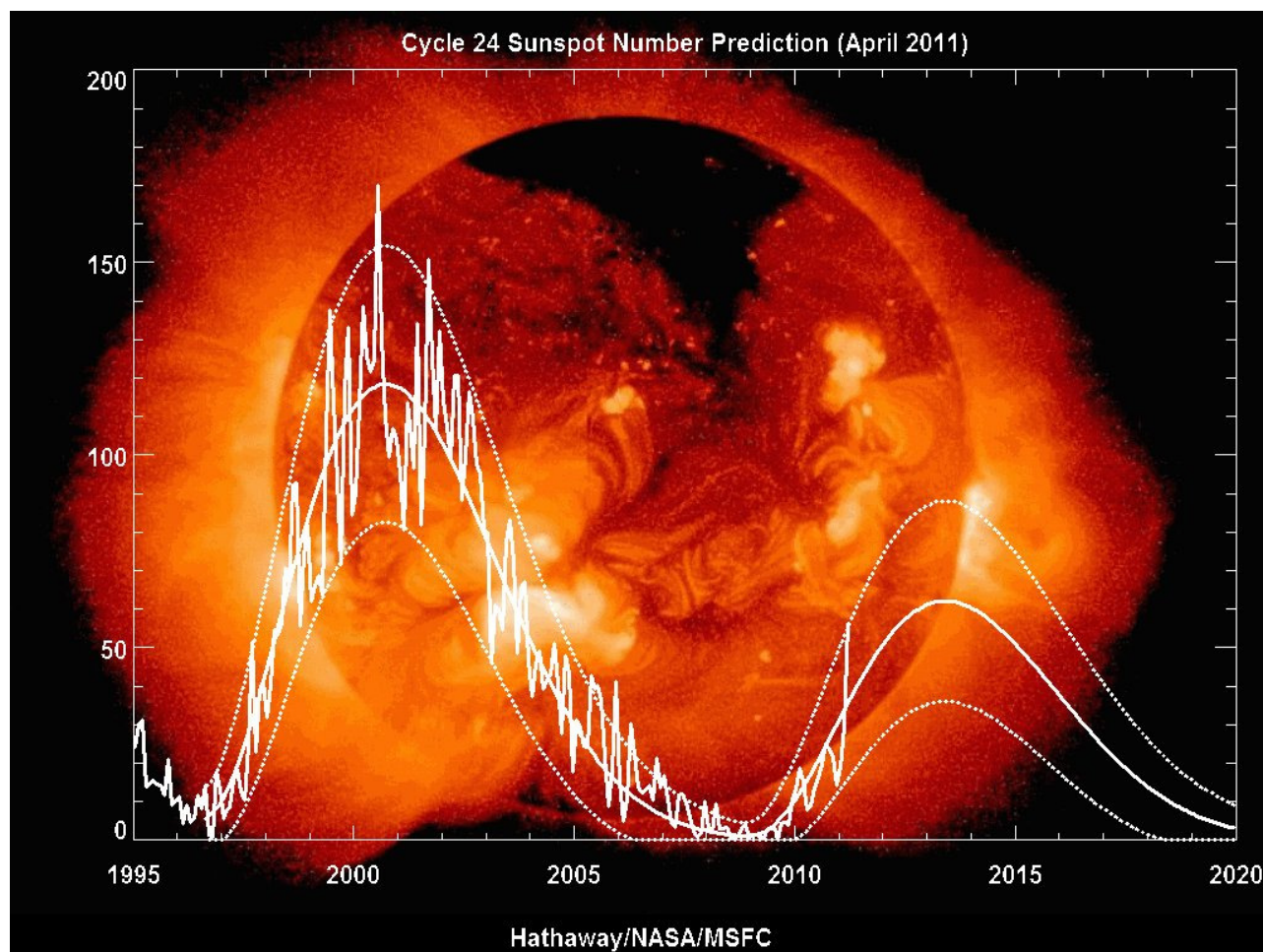
The Milcom Monitoring Post website has been reporting on the use of High Frequency radio in the enforcement of the no fly zone.

There's more on monitoring intercepts on-line at <http://www.tinyurl.com/5wca737>. (WIA via AR Newsline)

— CLASSIFIED AD —

MOBILE RADIO complete, 2-meter synthesized transceiver, linear amplifier, antenna, microphone, separate speaker, shielded ignition system. As is; you remove from wreck. Best offer. Joe's Auto Wreckers 123-456-7890 — HamRadioHumor, W6MUR, 1977

Latest April 2011 SSN Prediction—Things Are Looking Up



Sponsors Sought for Solo Op Trindade Island DXpedition



Members of the **Cantareira DX Group** are in the "Go!" stage of an apparent one-man DXpedition to **Trindade Island** (SA-010) sometime this year. (*Editor's Note: See PP0T story update bottom page 13*)

Specific dates have not been mentioned, but the call sign **PP0T** has been announced.

Junior, PY2ZA, states on QRZ.com, "I'm looking for sponsors to help the DXpedition. There is the possibility of a long period of activity. We also need equipment for installation of a beacon on the island." He also mentions that if they don't find sponsors, there will not be a DXpedition.

Trindade Island is ranked number 53 on *The DX Magazine's* 2010 'Most Wanted' list. **Trindade and Martim Vaz** is an [archipelago](#) of six islands located about 1,200 kilometers (740 mi) east of Brazil in the Southern [Atlantic Ocean](#). The archipelago has a total area of 10.4 km² (4.0 sq mi), *Trindade* being the largest island, and a population of 32 ([Brazilian Navy](#) personnel).

If you are interested in being a sponsor of this DXpedition, contact Junior, PY2ZA, at: py2za@ig.com.br

For DXpedition updates, watch: <http://www.cantareiradx.org>

DX News and Notes



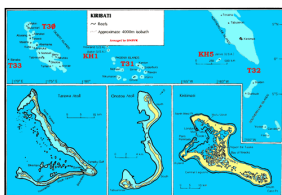
The new year 2012 should start off with a major DX effort if a planned expedition to No. 12 **Malpelo Island** comes through. HK1NA, the DX Colombia Radio Club, has posted details of a January effort by a 12-man international team on its web site (<http://hk0na.wordpress.com/>). The call sign for this effort will be **HK0NA** and operations are planned on all bands and modes.

There's been a change in plans for the early fall operation to 3D2 Conway Reef. Although it hasn't been set in stone the team now reportedly is going to **3D2 Rotuma** instead and currently is going through the process of securing a landing permit for a late-September-early October operation. The call sign for this 47th most wanted entity is expected to be **3D2R**. Stay tuned as more details are expected shortly.



The scheduled July operation to Rotuma has been cancelled and the seven-man Australian DXpedition team is now going to go to **VK9/L Lord Howe** instead. The change in plans was due to the death of expedition facilitator **Aisea Aisake, 3D2AA**, the first Rotuma Islander to hold an Amateur Radio 3D2 call.

There is periodic DX activity on **Ogasawara** but the stations either are not heard in this part of the world or the operators seem to be interested only in talking to someone back home in Japan! Maybe this time it will be different. Later this month and into early May—according to *The Daily DX*--three stations will operate on a staggered schedule using the call signs **JD1BLY** by J15RPT (Apr 30-May 7); **JD1BMH** by JG7PSJ (May 4-13) and **JD1BMT** by JE4SMQ (Apr 30-May 4). All will be active on 160-6 meters CW, SSB, satellites and digital modes. QSL each via his home call.



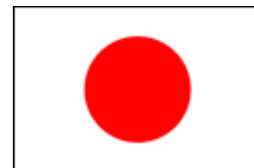
Canton Island in Central Kiribati will be one shortly (Apr 17-31). Old timers will remember this island cluster as the British Phoenix Islands in the western central Pacific. **T31 Central Kiribati** is ranked No. 28 on the most wanted list and is surrounded by a host of other 'most wanted' like Kingman Reef, Baker-Howland, Tokelau and Tuvalu. Two operating sites will be set up and will use the call sign **T31A**. Their stay is planned for 12 days. If you manage to get them QSL via W2IJ

Here's another one for your ' futures file'. The September 2011 **Timor-Leste DXpedition** has now received its callsign - **4W6A** - from ARCOM, the licensing authority in Dili. The DXpedition has a website, at <http://www.4w6a.com>, which includes profiles of the team members, propagation predictions and lots of information about Timor-Leste and Atauro Island, the location of the DXpedition



And from the It-never-rains-but-it-pours' department...If you missed the German **9N7AA** Nepal DXpedition which closed Apr 8, not to worry, the OM-XYL team of **9N7DX** and **9N7YL** are cranking up on Apr 13 and will run through Apr 30. In addition they plan to return in November with a full scale DXpedition.

— Maps and Flags from Internet Ham Atlas <http://www.hamatlas.eu/index.php?setlang=ENG&lang=ENG>



**Which flag above matches the country in the DX stories
Answers on page 13.**

NG3K Apr-May 2011 DX Calendar (Edited) <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

Start/End	Entity	Call	QSL Via	Details
Apr02 Apr16	Albania	ZA	F4DTO	By F4DTO as ZA/F4DTO; wires; QSL OK via REF Buro or direct
Apr04 Apr17	Vietnam	XV2RZ	XU7MDY Direct	By XU7MDY fm Phan Thiet (OK40bv); 80-6m; CW SSB
Apr08 Apr18	Am Samoa	KH8	AI5P	By AI5P as AI5P/KH8; holiday style operation
Apr08 May01	Barbados	8P9AA	VE3DZ	By VE3DZ; CW RTTY SSB
Apr09 Apr15	Svabard	JW1RSA	LA1RSA	By LA1RSA fm Longyearbyen (EU-026, WLOTA 0125); HF; all modes; QSL OK via Bureau or direct
Apr09 Apr22	Reunion	TO2Z	F4FLF	By F4FLF fm AF-016; SSB PSK RTTY; holiday style operation
Apr10 Apr15	Greenland	OX	G4MFX	By G4MFX as OX/G4MFX fm Ilulissat (NA-018); 40 20 17m; 5 watts; spare time operation
Apr10 Apr15	Vietnam	XV2LC	VK6LC	By VK6LC fm Ho Chi Minh City; 20m; CW SSB
Apr13 May01	Nepal	9N7DX	4Z4DX	By 4Z4DX; 20 15 10 6m; CW RTTY PSK31
Apr14 Apr18	Botswana	A25FC	ON4CJK	By ON4AEO + team; 160-10m; SSB CW RTTY PSK
Apr15 Apr18	Papua New Guinea	P29VLR	SM6CVX	By SM6CVX G3KHZ CT1AGF G3JKX G3UKV fm Green I (OC-231)
Apr15 Apr28	Togo	5V7CC	DL9MBI Buro	By DL9MBI DL3MBG DL5MGH DL5MEV fm nr Lome; 160-10m; SSB CW RTTY
Apr15 Jun15	Chad	TT8PK	F4EGS	By F4EGS; spare time operation
Apr16 Apr18	Greenland	OX	G4MFX	By G4MFX as OX/G4MFX fm Aasiaat (NA-134); 40 20 17m; 5 watts; spare time operation; tentative
Apr17 Apr19	Mariana Is	AH0CD	JH4VUC	By JH4VUC; 40 15 10 6m; SSB; 500w
Apr17 Apr28	Central Kiribati	T31A	W2IJ	By W2IJ + team fm Canton I (OC-043); 160-10m; SSB CW RTTY; QSL OK via buro or direct
Apr18 Apr25	Mayotte	TO2FH	TBA	By PT9ZE PY2PT PY2TNT PY2WAS PY4BZ fm AF-027; 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY PSK; 3 stns
Apr20 Apr22	Guam	KH2	JH4VUC	By JH4VUC as AH0CD/KH2; 40 15 10 6m; SSB; 500w
Apr20 Apr22	Monaco	3A	LotW	By EI9FBB as 3A/EI9FBB; QSL also OK via EI9FBB direct (w/ RP) and eQSL; afternoons only
Apr20 Apr25	Vietnam	XV4LC	VK6LC	By VK6LC fm Mekong Delta; 20m; CW SSB
Apr21 Apr24	Corsica	TK4DS	ON4AMM Buro	By ON1DNF ON7IQ ON7QC ON7JPS ON4PJA; HF; SSB + digital
Apr22 Apr25	Papua New Guinea	P29VLR	SM6CVX	By SM6CVX fm Misima I (OC-117)
Apr22 Jun15	Trindade & Martin Vaz	PP0T	EB7DX	By Cantareira DX Group fm Trindade I (SA-010); HF; SSB CW RTTY PSK, perhaps SSTV
Apr23 Apr25	Palau	T88VU	JH4VUC	By JH4VUC; 40 15 10 6m; SSB; 500w
Apr25 Apr27	Papua New Guinea	P29VLR	SM6CVX	By SM6CVX fm Loloata I (OC-240)

More NG3K Apr-May 2011 DX Calendar (Edited) <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

Start/End	Entity	Call	QSL Via	Details
Apr25 May03	Azerbaijan	4K3AC	YL2GM	By YL2GM; all bands; CW SSB RTTY; 100w
Apr28 May06	Ghana	9G5LK	PA2LS	By PE1KL PA2LS; 80-10m; SSB PSK31 RTTY
Apr30 May04	Ogasawara	JD1BMT	JE4SMQ	By JD1BMT fm Chichijima I (AS-031); 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY
Apr30 May07	Ogasawara	JD1BLY	J15RPT	By JD1BLY fm Chichijima I (AS-031); 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY
May01 May05	Mariana Is	AH0	LotW	By AB2RF as AH0/AB2RF; mainly RTTY PSK; QSL also OK via JJ2RCJ direct
May01 May31	Afghanistan	T6PSE	LotW	By N6PSE K3LP YT1AD K1LZ K3VN AH6HY UX0LL; QSL also OK via W3HMK; for 10 days during May 2011
May02 May20	Dominican Republic	HI7	LotW	By ON4ARV as HI7/OT4R fm Punta Cana; 20 15 10m; SSB; daily 20:00-2200z
May03 May12	Senegal	6W		By EA1BT as 6W/EA1BT; HF
May04 May13	Ogasawara	JD1BMH	JG7PSJ	By JD1BMH fm Chichijima I (AS-031); 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY
May06 May13	Cayman Is	ZF	Home Call	By DL1THM as ZF2TH and DH2AK as ZF2AT fm Grand Cayman I; mainly 20m, SSB; holiday style operation; QSL OK via Buro or direct
May08 May14	Dodecanese	SV5	PA1FJ Buro	By PA1FJ as SV5/PA1FJ/p fm Pigadia (EU-001, GIOTA DKS-016, MIA MGD-013, WLOTA 1570, KM350m); 40-6m; Buddistick + dipole
May08 May21	Barbados	8P9XB	PT7WA	By PY2XB fm St Philip (NA-021, GK03gc); 80-6m, 6m beacon on 50.099 MHz; CW SSB RTTY
May14 May22	Dodecanese	SX5F	RAAG Buro	By SV1GRM SV1HER SV1RP SV1RC SV1QN SV1GYG SV2FWW fm Farmakonisi Rocky Islet (EU-001); HF; CW SSB + digital
May14 May22	St Barthelemy	FJ	OSIT	By OSIT as FJ/OSIT; 40-6m; SSB RTTY; QSL OK via Buro or direct
May17 May24	Tuvalu	T2XG	JA1XGI	By JA1XGI; 40-10m; CW SSB + digital; QSL OK via JARL Buro or direct
May19 May23	Svalbard	JW8HGA	LA8HGA	By LA8HGA fm Spitsbergen (EU-026); HF; CW; QSL OK via Buro or direct



Trindade PY0/T

PP0T TRIDADE UPDATE — The expected start date for the PP0T DXpedition has been changed to April 25 because the Brazilian Navy re-scheduled the departure date of the vessel carrying the DXpedition operator Junior, PY2ZA and his equipment.

The new departure date for the *Garcia D'Avila* is Monday, April 18. The 740-mile Atlantic crossing to Trindade is expected to take at least four days with a planned arrival on April 22. Equipment offloading and station set-up will follow with a hoped-for on-air date on the 25th

Although Junior will be the sole PP0T operator he plans to be QRV on all HF bands and 6 meter CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK and SSTV until mid-June. There's a possibility PP0T will participate in some contests—although which ones were not specified.



Garcia D'Avila



NFDXA-CQ DX Full Marathon Standings April 12, 2011

Call	Countries	Zones	IOTA	Total
AB4UF	0	0	0	0
K3LB	129	34	50	213
K4EB	202	40	108	350
K4UTE	225	40	96	361
KB4CRT	7	7	4	18
KC4FWS	1	1	0	2
NIWON	136	29	66	231
N4EPD	0	0	0	0
N4GFO	0	0	0	0
N4JBK	0	0	0	0
N4KE	0	0	0	0
N4NN	0	0	0	0
NF4L	97	27	44	168
NU4Y	0	0	0	0
NW4C	44	21	20	85
W4FDA	16	12	0	28
W4GJ	167	36	0	203
WA4B	0	0	0	0
WA4ET	0	0	0	0
WR4K	123	30	56	209

Full-MARATHON RULES

Between 1 Jan and 31 December work as many DX stations as you can on any band using any mode. Work each country only once—unless it spans CQ zones. Also, work the country as an IOTA, if possible. IOTA contacts count an extra point

WHY PARTICIPATE?

In addition to numerous spoken and written accolades, back-pats, atta-boys and, possibly, expressions of envy and regret from those who either didn't do as well or take part, the winner will receive a free dinner, including dessert! Who knows, other prizes may be forthcoming. Stay tuned.

Comments from the participants

...I hope that everyone in the club will participate. For me, I will do my damnest to beat (everyone) else in the Marathon. I now have some distractions I have not had in the past but I want all of you to give me some competition!

--K4UTE

I encourage anyone to take part in the challenge. With just a little effort, it does not take much to catch the bug and get back on the air.

— KC4FWS

A QSO A DAY FOR G6HMU DURING 2011

Throughout 2011, **Keith Maton, G6NHU**, is embarking on an ambitious project to have a QSO every day of the year. He says that his QSOs will be on any band or any mode.

There is a blog to follow the progress of this project at www.qso365.co.uk. The blog won't necessarily be updated every day but it will document how the project is going with updates as time permits. (*Southgate*)

Raffle Held to Fund T32C DXpedition

The Chiltern DX Club (CDXC) of England is holding a raffle to help fund the T32C Christmas Island DXpedition to East Kiribati in September 2011. There is one prize, a Yaesu FT-950 transceiver with a 30A power supply. T32C is the most expensive DXpedition support ever undertaken by Five Star DXA and CDXC's fundraising represents a major element of the budgetary plan. For more information (and, perchance, to buy a ticket?) go to http://www.cdxco.org.uk/t32c_raffle

Over Over - Over

STANFORD
UNIVERSITY



A technology that allows wireless signals to be sent and received simultaneously on a single channel has been developed by researchers at Stanford University.

These new wireless radios can send and receive signals at the same time, which immediately makes them twice as fast as existing technology. With further tweaking they will likely lead to even faster and more efficient networks in the future.

Researchers theorize that if a radio receiver could filter out the signal from its own transmitter, weak incoming signals

could be heard.

Their setup takes advantage of the fact that since each radio 'knows' exactly what it's transmitting, it will know what its receiver should filter out. The process is similar to noise-

9 Year-Old RZ9UMA Makes CW and SSB QSOs

A video of 9 year-old radio ham **Katia Ivanova, RZ9UMA**, has been posted on YouTube. This time, she's QRV on CW & SSB. Katia will celebrate her 10th birthday May 31, 2011. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FyG5TJ4eGs4&feature=player_embedded

Ops Needed for 3D2 in June

A team of **Pacific DXers** have ALL permits in place and are planning to sail for **3D2 Rotuma** during early June 2011 and operate for three weeks.

The DXpedition is headed by VK4AN who says 24hr power and accommodations have already been arranged and most of the equipment is in Fiji already. What the operation doesn't have is enough operators.

"We are seeking expressions of interest from experienced CW-SSB-Digital mode operators and possibly a 6m enthusiast," says Ed, VK6AN. Contact VK4AN if interested at: vk4an@wia.org.au SKYPEewdeyoung

The expedition call sign is TBA, but could be either 3D2P or 3D20R.

—DX World of Ham Radio <http://dx-world.net/>

Special UK Call Signs for Royal Wedding

UK radio hams will be able to use special temporary call signs - with prior authorisation - from 29 April to 9 May 2011 to signify the marriage of H.R.H. Prince William and Miss Catherine Middleton. The only format for the individual special temporary call sign permitted, is as follows: Subject to prior authorization, the existing Regional Secondary Locator in the existing call sign may be replaced by the Letter "R" except in the case where no Secondary Locator exists, the Letter "R" may be inserted as a Secondary Locator. Examples: G0ABC is amended to GR0ABC; GM0ABC is amended to GR0ABC; 2E0ABC to 2R0ABC; 2W0ABC to 2R0ABC; 2J0ABC to 2R0ABC; M1ABC to

This will have you humming all day...with a smile on your face. Enjoy :)

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=MZ35SOU9HTM

Flag quiz answers:: JDI  Ogasawara  3D2 Rotuma

 4W6 Timor-Leste  VK9L Lord Howe Island

 9N Nepal  T3I Central Kiribati  HK0 Colombia

ODDS ENDS

Credit for much the DX news, illustrations and information contained in this publication goes to a variety of sources including, but not limited to the following: **The Daily DX** (<http://www.dailydx.com/>), **NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page** (<http://www.ng3k.com/>), **OhioPenn DX Bulletin** (<http://www.papays.com/opdx.html>), **DX World of Ham Radio** (<http://www.dx-world.net/>), **The DX Magazine** (<http://www.dxpub.com/>), **DX Italia** (<http://www.dxitalia.it/>), **DARC DXNL** (<http://www.dxf.darc.de/>), **Pete's DX Newsdesk** (<http://www.dx-newsdesk.co.uk/>), **ARRL** (<http://www.arrl.org/>), off air and (gasp!) word of mouth from friends who turned on their radios, operated and told me what they heard.



PileUp

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The Monthly Journal of The North Florida DX Association



Let's see, is it a brown-red-green wire or one that's green-red-brown?

The Last Word

Spring is definitely 'busting out al over' in our part of the world. Along with sunny (for the most part) warm days and cool, low humidity nights has come evidence of steadily improving propagation conditions. DXpeditions are off and running to much-wanted entities. Signals on the higher HF bands are now being heard with regularity. And DX is being worked well into our hours of darkness. At long last Cycle 24 seems to be 'kicking in'.

However, along with this flowering of propagation conditions in the DX garden has come a bumper crop of DX weeds in the form of numerous unwanted, unskilled and obviously undeterred frequency cops. The almost religious zeal with which they pursue getting some misguided soul off the DX frequency would be admirable if done in a more constructive manner. As it now stands, the 'cops' are the problem, not the poor guy who forgot to split or hit the wrong switch. Frequency cops are like chickweed and poison ivy. Too bad there isn't such a thing as an RF version of a pesticide that we can use on these unwelcome miscreants.

Add the increasing instances of deliberate QRMing of rare DX stations to the babble of the frequency cops and you have a racket that would discourage anyone with an ounce of common sense or reason. However, 'reason' and 'common sense' are characteristics not usually associated with those of the DX persuasion when it comes to a 'needed' entity.

People on the outside have a hard enough time understanding our hobby. My advice is don't even try to explain. Be thankful that spring is here and that conditons are getting better with each passing day. Don't lose out. Jump in!

Listen hard, find that DX under the pile, narrow down the filters, squeeze the BW some more, ... and go get 'em! — **NW4C**

