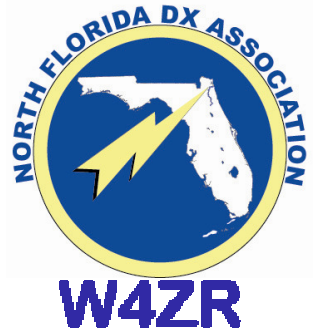




The North Florida DX Association

PileUp

The NFDXA Newsletter



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Volume 3 Number 10

October 2011

<http://nfdxa.com/>



3D2R Rotuma QRT Early— Logs finalized when team reaches Suva.

To the surprise of everyone and a major disappointment for many DX chasers the long-awaited operation to Rotuma, DXCC's 47th most wanted entity, was closed down without explanation, some 9 hours ahead of its announced October 7th QRT date.

In an Internet posting operation spokesman VE3VXY wrote: "The last QSO will be on October 5th at 11:00 GMT. Our expected time of departure will be at 12:00 GMT, October 5th from Rotuma to Suva, Fiji Islands. We will do our final LOG update upon arrival in Suva...There shall be no more updates from Rotuma Island after this."

In six days 3D2R Rotuma made approximately 54,600 QSOs.

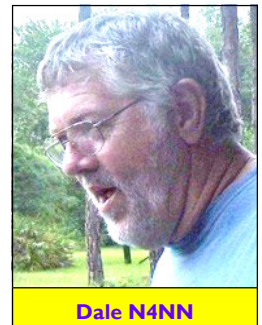
N4NN: Band Slots Clean Sweep for T32C and 3D2R 1st in Zone 5 to fill 3D2R slots; 4th in world for T32C

No doubt about it. NFDXA's N4NN has been a busy DXer when it comes to filling band slots in the two most recent Pacific Dxpeditions.

Almost as a warm-up exercise, Dale made contacts in every band slot available in the recently concluded 3D2R operation from Rotuma. He quickly assumed the lead in Zone 5 during the first two days of the expedition's stay and then never looked back. Being first fastest was a good thing as the DXpedition shut down without explanation two days ahead of its expected closing date.

At the same time N4NN was chasing Rotuma Qs, he working to fill the 24 band slots available in the current T32C operation. With help from excellent propagation conditions he had 'worked 'em all' by the expedition's second week-end. In sum, N4NN scored ahead of stations throughout the Pacific and the US west coast that were basically in T32C's 'back yard' on Christmas Island.

Way to Go, Dale.



Dale N4NN



If you haven't done so already, be sure to Submit your list for The 2011 **DX Magazine** Most Wanted Survey. Go to http://www.dxpub.com/dx_survey2011.html and check the respective blocks for entities that you have not confirmed, or those in a mode category you need for a specific entity. The deadline to complete 2011 on-line Most Wanted survey is October 15.

The next meeting of the North Florida DX Association will be 5 pm Saturday, October 15 at the St. Johns Seafood and Steaks, 1161 Lane Avenue South, Jacksonville.

**St. Johns
Seafood & Steaks**





W4ZR



NFDXA OFFICERS 2011

The North Florida DX Association, Inc. is made up of a small group of Amateur Radio Operators located in and around Jacksonville and northeast Florida whose interests are primarily contests and DXing. 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 2010.

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

Attendance at September 17, 2011 NFDXA Meeting

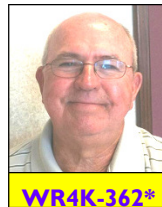
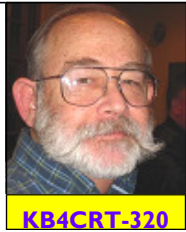
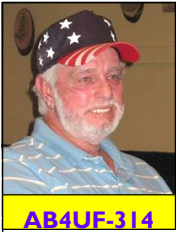
This meeting was at the W4FDA Chalet

Name	Call	Attend	Name	Call	Attend
Steve Brown	AB4UF	Y	Dale Conner	N4NN	N
John Hale	AC4ET	N	Billy Williams	N4UF	N
Larry Bostwick	K3LB	Y	Mike Reublin	NF4L	Y
Larry Junstrom	K4EB	N	Dave Mains	NO4j	N
Dick Hicks	K4UTE	Y	Jim Iori	NU4Y	Y
John Silberman	KB4CRT	N	Warren Croke	NW4C	Y
Jim Hughes	KC4FWS	Y	Pres Graham	W4FDA	Y
Bill Walker	KX4WW	Y	Gary Liljegren	W4FDA	N
Cory McDonald	NIWON	Y	Bob Lightner	W4GJ	Y
Mike Parnin	N4EPD	Y	Steve Barber	WA4B	Y
Ron Tivey	N4GFO	Y	David Price	WA4ET	N
Joe Barnes	N4JBK	N	Dick Knox	WR4K	N
Ron Blake	N4KE	Y	Total Members Attending		15

—Continued next page



The NFDXA 300 Club



The number 300 has come to be recognized as sort of a ‘milestone’ of achievement and in some instances, certain exclusivity. For example, consider the ‘300 hitter’ in major league baseball. Any player with a 300 batting average over the course of the baseball season has done quite well. So well, in fact, the player’s probably getting a multi-million dollar salary!



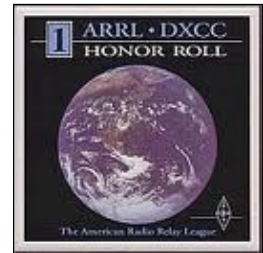
On the other hand, an example of ‘exclusivity’ to an odd extreme would be Antarctica’s 300 Club. To be in this group you must have walked around the South Pole naked—except for boots—in minus 100 degrees Fahrenheit after baking yourself in a 200 degree sauna! The sauna’s plus 200 degrees and the outside’s minus 100 degrees is where the 300 comes from.



DXers have their own 300 club—those who’ve confirmed 300 or more DXCC entities. Although it’s an achievement worthy in its own right, it’s only a milepost on the way to the *really* big prizes, the DXCC Honor Roll which presently requires 332 entities. The crème de la crème is Number 1 DXCC Honor Roll, and that takes 341 countries confirmed.



NFDXA has 11 members who have reached the 300 confirmed country total. Within that group are a number of individuals who’ve gone far beyond the 300 level—plus several who’ve achieved Number 1 Honor Roll on several occasions!



Check the pictures on this page. If your image isn’t shown in this group, don’t let this solar cycle go to waste. Get active, join the chase.

**Pending ARRL DXCC posting*

Secretary’s Report—September 17, 2011



The meeting was called to order by **Warren, NW4C** at **6:00 pm**

Secretary’s Report — No additions or corrections; accepted as published in the September *PileUp*
WIFO, Mike Garcia was in attendance as a guest of
Pres, W4FDA

Treasurer’s Report --- Treasurer **Jim, KC4FWS** reported a balance of **\$958.68**

Unfinished Business - There was no unfinished business to consider.

New Business - No new business was brought before the assembled members

The **October 15** meeting planner is: **Dale, N4NN**

The meeting was adjourned at: **6:30 pm**

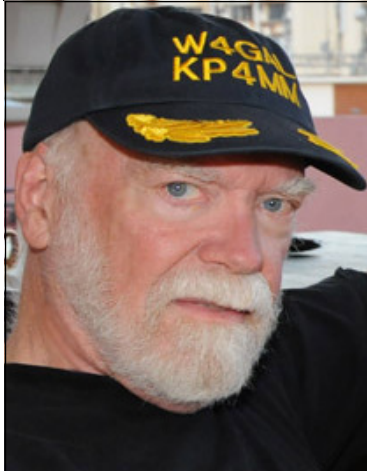
Respectfully submitted, **Mike Reublin, NF4L, Secretary**



Accidents happen... and when they do sometimes they aren't all bad.

How I got a 12 meter antenna by accident.

— Gary Liljegarten, W4GAL



I have a Cushcraft triband rotatable dipole hanging in my attic that doesn't rotate, but it works reasonably well on 10, 15, and 20. In fact, when I took out the center of it and then used a balun in the middle and hung it in an inverted-V formation along the rafters in the attic where, it gets a good report on SWR with my MFJ Antenna Analyzer.

So I can work the world with it, and have, if the DX isn't rare.

I decided to take down my 2 meter/440 antenna on the high point on my roof and put up a 10 meter inverted T to improve my 10 meter options. I

had an 8' fiberglass pole I've had for years. If I ran a #14 wire up the middle of it and then took apart a mobile whip and used the slider whip adjustment part to fine tune it, I ought to get a good antenna out of it. So with the calculator, and 468 over the frequency in MHz, I worked out the dimensions. The vertical dimension was slightly over 8' 3". I cut the two radials (a recent article in QST) the same length. They would droop a bit as they conformed to the roof line on my 4/12 pitch.

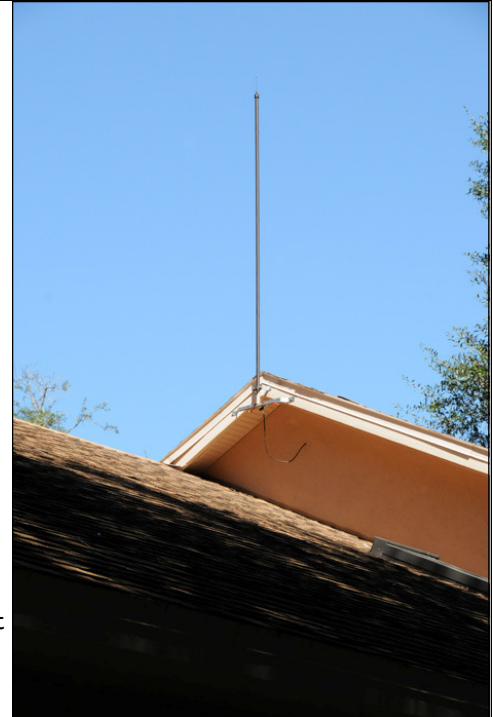
Put it up one afternoon on my hot roof, ran the radials out, had my MFJ meter on the roof with me, and was horrified to discover that the SWR didn't go under about 3 to 1! I was ready to rip it off the roof after all my hard work, and throw it into the backyard, when I thought, gee, my mind may be fried from this heat, but I wonder if it is resonate lower than the scale I was on.

I changed scales and coming down from 27 MHz, zoom, all the way to 1.0 to 1 at 24.55. (It works out to be 407 divided by the freq in MHz.) By this time, I was about delirious from the heat and couldn't even sit down because the shingles were so hot, but the thought was, crap, I am going to have to cut off the fiberglass rod to get this thing enough shorter.

Then inspiration hit: I'm sitting on the verge of 12 meters with this thing and I don't even have a 12 meter antenna. And this one is showing 1.0:1. So I adjusted the vertical element with the slider, and got it to center on 24.900 at 51 resistance ohms and no reactance.

It works great.

Editor's Note — W4GAL resides in the west Gainesville community Town of Tioga which has one of the more strict Home Owners Associations. Visible antenna structures are not allowed. Fortunately for Gary the area is heavily wooded. Vertical antennas painted the right colors tend to blend in with natural foliage when viewed from the street. More on his 20 - 40m verticals in November.



Lending a helping hand

NIWON has been a busy guy of late. With the 10-12-and 15 meter bands hot and expected to get hotter **Cory** has been filling his band slots while looking for that elusive number 331 to make the Honor Roll. For a while it looked like **T6TB** was going to fill that 'last-needed-entity' bill when he came up around noon on 14.198 recently. The problem was the T6 also had a very loud buzz on his frequency that extended a kHz above and below his frequency. Cory contacted the T6TB pilot station...passed along the QRM information along with a suggestion he ask the T6 to consider working split...which he did...and since Cory wasn't able to work the T6 he then helped the pilot station solve his web site problem. Good deeds will eventually pay off, Cory



What came down...is now back up...Big Time!



When a short but violent early summer thunderstorm in June 2008 took down a neighbor's tree it knocked WA4B out of the Ham Radio business. The larger tree fell across the WA4B tower guy wires. In turn, this caused Steve's tall



June 1, 2008

tower to collapse across his house leaving a tangled mass of twisted steel, coax cable and control cables...and his Mosley Classic 36 beam array in a pile of mangled aluminum junk in his driveway. The photo on the right, taken only hours after the incident, illustrates the extent of the damage. In sum, WA4B was QRT.

It's taken three years but now WA4B is back. And it was worth the wait because Steve's station is now bigger and better.

The crowning touch was the late August installation of a stacked Tennadyne array consisting of a T-28 over a T-8 which enables Steve to be QRV 14 through 1300 MHz.

The entire process went off without a hitch, said Steve: "Things went very smooth due to a great crew and the 132-foot crane. Cary Beuershausen, N4CDB and Daniel Matthews who works with me at the Jax radio shop were the climbers. They were on the tower for a total of 5 hours."

WA4B then added: "The ground crew was Richard Witoski, Brian KC4AGH, Willie AC4WZ, Jim KC4FWS, Randy KI4RHQ, Mike NF4L, Steve AB4UF, Todd K1KVA, Ronnie KC4UKV, and Yogi Waarum. I am very appreciative to all of my friends who have helped me on this and all of the previous projects."

The 'new outside look' at the WA4B QTH consists of a 103 foot tower with an antenna mast that extends for

another 10 feet. According to Steve, "The crane was able to reach from my front driveway to the back yard over the guy wires to pick up the antennas. The crane operator dropped the T28 with no tag lines or camera right on the 1/2 inch OD mast right through the U-bolts with no assistance. Talk about threading the needle!"

Turning Steve's stacked array is a Yeasu Model 800 rotor. The T-28 is fed with half-inch hard line while Belden RG-213 is the feed line of choice for the 14-30 MHz T8 beam. Steve notes: "I ran the feed line through about 75 feet of buried 4 inch PVC pipe with (drainage) holes in the bottom to my shack. The antennas work like a champ and so far I haven't had any complaints from my neighbors."

Let's hope that this is a portent of good things yet to come for WA4B.

Contest, Contest...CQ Contest



Recent Washington, DC transplant and long-time NFDXA member **KX4WW** has announced he and some friends, namely **W4OX**, **W9RN**, **NF9V** and **Dr. Meyers** will be operating M/S in the CQ WW later this month from Will's QTH on Provo. They will be using the contest call **VQ5X**.



In the news...



T-32C East Kiribati ... The 5-Star DXers' Association DXpedition to Christmas Island is well underway. Despite working with the handicap of not having a full 1-ton shipping container of radio parts, spares and antennas not make it to the DXpedition site the group is going strong. Spots for T32C can be found at all times of the day using all modes from digital through SSB on just about any band you name 24 hours a day.

It's obvious this is one DXpedition group that isn't letting missing equipment or the operating inconvenience caused by the shipping container loss stand in its way. As of 0700z October 9 the 5-Star team had uploaded 91,639 QSOs, some 25,400 of these Qs were by unique call signs. That's a lot and there's still another

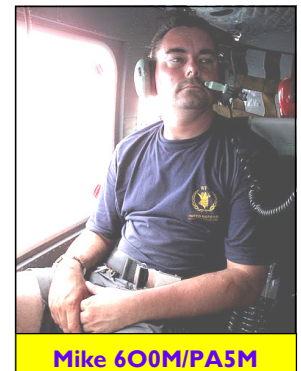
17 days of this operation left from Christmas Island.

There has been one aggravation. Big time DXpeditions since as T32C have found themselves the frequent targets of Pirates. Although the T32C team regrets the inconvenience for operators who've made a 'fake' Christmas Island QSO they suggest if one has any questions, work them again—they'll be on the island until October 26. There's a possibility of 24 band-slot openings with this operation and if you're missing a legitimate contact because of a pirate, be patient and keep trying until you get the 'real thing'.

In addition, inevitably there will be busted calls in the DXpedition log and there may be a few QSOs where the band or mode has been incorrectly logged. A T32C spokesman says they generally will not be able to fix these errors until after the DXpedition is over.

Back to the 'missing equipment' problem, according to T32C spokesman G3XTT, "this has turned out to be something of an unplanned Field Day style operation, and we now have no expectations of our container of equipment arriving while we are here on Christmas Island." Instead, the team is making-do with the equipment individual members hand-carried with them to East Kiribati, as well as items donated to them by fellow hams and DXpedition sponsors on short notice. "We are grateful to all those who loaned equipment at short notice to help enable the expedition to take place and be successful."

60—Somalia ... It was a surprise for many 10 meter DXers when Michael, PA5M, showed up one evening earlier this month operating from Somalia as **600M** with a very strong signal into North Florida. Within an hour he shifted operations down to 17 meters where he continued worked a large pile for almost 3 hours without a break before closing down. Although Somalia doesn't rank that high on the most wanted DXCC list (No. 60) the ongoing conflict between radical Islamic and government forces have made Somali Ham Radio operations increasingly rare. As it turned out, Michael's original stay was expected to be four nights but it was cut to a one-night stand. Why has not been explained. PA5M/600M is a UN employee working with the World Food Program and has recently been operating as 5Z4/PA5M. If you worked 600M QSL via PA7FM.

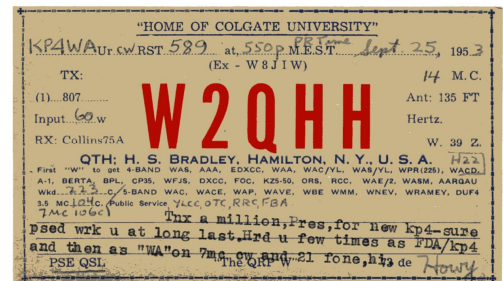


Mike 600M/PA5M



Vintage QSLs

Here are two from W4FDA's extensive collection, on the left is one from a fellow Navy op in Alaska; the other when Pres was KP4WA in Puerto Rico



Here's more that's in the News...

World's youngest nation joins ITU

The International Telecommunication Union has announced that the world's newest country, **South Sudan**, has joined the ITU to become the Union's 193rd Member State, effective from 3 October 2011.

The country, which gained its independence on 9 July, 2011 has already been allocated the international dialling code +211 by the ITU, following the country's recognition by the UN General Assembly. The dialling code became active on 28 September.

"We are delighted to be able to welcome South Sudan as an ITU member state so soon after attaining full nationhood. The government of South Sudan clearly recognizes the importance of information and communication technology (ICT) as an engine of social and economic development. We will work alongside the national authorities to leverage the power of technology, to help lift the country to new levels and fulfill the national motto of 'Justice, Liberty, Prosperity'," said ITU Secretary-General Dr Hamadoun Touré.



The accession of South Sudan as an ITU Member State implies its adhesion to the Radio Regulations, the international treaty which governs the use of radiocommunications among the world's nations, giving it full access rights to the frequency spectrum and satellite orbit resources managed by ITU. There was no mention of a prefix block for the new republic.

A high-level ITU delegation led by Brahima Sanou, Director of ITU's Telecommunication Development Bureau, recently met with government ministers in South Sudan with the aim of acquiring first-hand information on the country's needs and challenges in the area of ICT development. The first such visit by ITU, the mission paves the way for the delivery of focused assistance to the country as it embarks on its development path.

—<http://www.southgatearc.org/news/>



Cyberspam or Cyberwar? Cuba says Radio/TV Martí texting is 'cyberwar'

Cuba has alleged that **Radio/TV Martí** is violating the country's laws and may disrupt its cellular text-messaging system with a computerized system that can send up to 24,000 text messages a week to cell phones on the island.

Developed for mass marketing campaigns, the system makes it almost impossible to

block the texts because the computer makes them look as though each individual message, or SMS, was sent from a different telephone number.

Radio/TV Martí is using the text messages to deliver the same kind of news and information that the US government-run stations already broadcast to the island, said stations director Carlos García-Perez. [Read more from the Miami Herald](http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/10/03/2437103/radiotv-marti-sending-news-to.html#ixzz1Zo1itdqN) <http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/10/03/2437103/radiotv-marti-sending-news-to.html#ixzz1Zo1itdqN>



Amateur Radio Newsline Joins Ham Nation TV team

Amateur radio Newsline is now a weekly feature of Ham Nation on the TWIT TV Internet television network. In making the merger announcement TWIT TV Network founder Leo LaPorte, W6TWT, said: "We are thrilled to have the addition of regular news on this show. What better place to run (Amateur Radio) Newsline than right here." Ham Nation co-host Bob Heil, K9EID then noted: "Each week we are going to bring a couple of minutes of Newsline to Ham Nation and kind of keep our audience up on some of the top news." The announcement was followed by the first of what will be a weekly two-minute live Ham Radio news summary. If you missed the live show, you can download the podcast and listen or watch at <http://www.twit.tv/hn>.



DX News and Notes

Malpelo Island DXpedition HKØNA



Two members of the **2012 HK0 DXpedition** team are going to **Malpelo** for a reconnaissance visit in late October. DXpedition leader **Jorge Prieto, HK1R** says the purpose of the trip is to check out possible operating sites and make final decisions on the type and placement of antennas. "We want to try to have antennas oriented for all parts of the DX world", Jorge said. "Also, some equipment will be moved onto the island and stored until our DXpedition begins in late January 2012." Several of the Elecraft K3s are already in Colombia. The other K3s, five KPA500 amplifiers, antennas from DX Engineering, and Spiderbeam 65 foot masts for the low band antennas will be shipped soon. The Alpha 8410s are on their way.

An effort is being made to extend the DXpedition's time on Malpelo. By working with the authorities and agencies that oversee the island and the charter boat company, it appears that if the team can get to the island one day earlier it may have the option of staying a few extra days. The current plan has the team QRV on 160 through 6 meters on CW, SSB and one Digital mode on or about January 23rd for 12-14 days.

Malpelo, HK0/M currently is Number 12 on the DXCC's Most Wanted list.

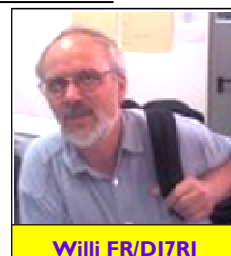
For more information visit the Malpelo website at: www.hk0na.com

--DX World of Ham Radio



Reunion Island

Willi, DJ7RJ is back on **Reunion Island** and operating as **FR/DJ7RJ** until October 26th. He's focusing on low bands running a K2 and a 500 watt amp into an inverted L antenna. Everything seems to be working well. At this writing he's already been spotted on 160 through 17 meter CW. If you work Willi and need a QSL card for Reunion Island QSL DJ7RJ via his home



Willi FR/DJ7RJ



Seiji JK1KSB

Maldive Islands -- Elsewhere in the Indian Ocean just a short distance from Reunion there will soon be activity from one of the atolls in the Maldives. **8Q7SO** will be operated by **JK1KSB** on Mirihi Island, AS-013, South Ari Atoll, **Maldive Islands**, October 28-November 4. **Seiji** plans to be on 80-10M CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK31. This will be a return visit to the Maldives for Seiji who operated as **8Q7SO** between 2008 October 26 and 31. QSL his upcoming operation via JK1KSB.



Maldive Islands



FH8-Mayotte Island — **F6GNT, Phillip Ward**, has been on Mayotte Island since August 1st and is expected to be there until March 1, 2013. He has recently obtained his **FH8NX** call sign and was QRV on 10 meter SSB on several occasions last month. He's using an IC-746PRO running 100 watts into a multi-band dipole up 25 meters. Phil eventually hopes to be on 20 through 10 meters on SSB. QSL direct to his call book address (<http://www.qrz.com/db/>)



More DX News and Notes



Rob GM3YTS

DXpedition to Malawi ... GM3YTS, Rob, and GM0GAV, Gav, have announced a CW only DXpedition to the tiny nation of **Malawi** in southeast Africa. They will be active as **7Q7GM** from October 31 to November 13 with an emphasis on the low bands, specifically 80 and 160 meters. Plans are for them to upload their logs to a log search during the DXpedition and then LoTW upon their return home. QSL via GM4FDM.

— GM3YTS Photos



Gav GM0GAV



Les WB8LES/T6LB

Afghanistan --WB8LES, Les, is a defense contractor pilot currently stationed at a Forward Operating Base Shank in Afghanistan. He has recently received the call sign **T6LB**. According to he has hopes of being able to put up a sloper antenna this month and will be using an ICOM 7000. Les says he will post times and frequencies for his operations on 20 and 40 meters for those who



C130 departing FOB Shank in Afghanistan

want a T6 confirmation. By the time you read this he could be QRV. Check QRZ.com for updated QSL information as it wasn't available at the time this was being written.



Central African Republic DXpedition — DK7PE, Rudi, is heading south to **Bangui, Central African Republic (CAR)** where he will be QRV as **TL0CW** from October 26th to November 3rd. Rudi has his license in hand and plans are to be QRV on 1.8 through 28 MHz on CW. The emphasis will be on Topband and 80 meters where the CAR is much needed by many DXers. He'll be taking an Elecraft K2 and wire antennas, but due to strict weight limits there will be no big amplifier. However, Rudi is hopeful he's be able to find and take a small amp. QSL via DK7PE.



Rudi DK7PE

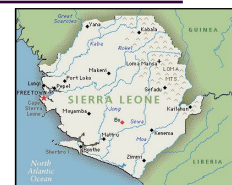
JG8NQJ, Susumu "Take" Kanno is scheduled for another three month work assignment on the isolated Japanese island of **Minami Torishima** in the northern Pacific from mid-December 2011 until mid-March 2012.. **JDI/M** is number 37 on the DXCC most wanted entities list. Until his scheduled return to Japan October 18, Take was active on Minami Torishima as **JG8NQJ/JDI**, working QRP on 17 and 15 meters using an IC-726 (10W max) with a simple dipole on both CW and SSB. On the upcoming December trip Take plans to use a new 200 watt rig and put up another antenna, but he has no announced plans for RTTY. QSL JARL QSL bureau or direct to JA8CJY, Susumu Sanada, 5-17, 5jo-4chome, Sin-Ei, Kiyota, Sapporo, 004-0835 JAPAN.



Minami Torishima



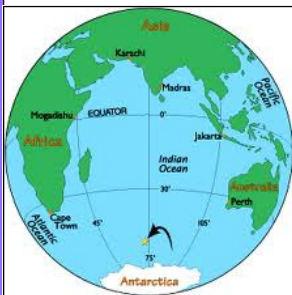
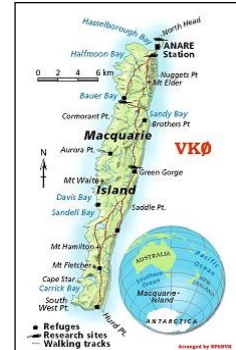
9L0W BANANA ISLAND -- German ops DJ8NK, DL5CW, DL9USA, DL2VW and DJ9RR are heading to Banana Island (AF-037), Sierra Leone next month. They will be QRV as 9L0W from November 22nd to December 4th, including the CQ World Wide CW DX Contest. They'll be on 160 through 10 meters on CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK running 700 watts, a Hex-beam, Spiderbeam and verticals. QSL via DK2VW. -- *The Daily DX*



Still More DX News and Notes



VK0/M Macquarie Island ... VK0TH/VK8TH, Trevor, is on Macquarie Island, DXCC's 13th most wanted entity, until the end of next April. He says he mainly works 40, 20, 15 and 10M when he has time. Reportedly, Trevor's favorite mode is BPSK, but he also uses CW and SSB, with an FT-897 running 100 watts to a 5-band vertical as well as 40 and 20M loops. Those who have heard and spotted VK0TH have reported him on PSK31 on 21070 on occasional Saturdays around 0230Z. QSL via JE1LET. <http://www.qrz.com/db/JE1LET>. Another op, **VK0KEV, Kevin**, also on Macquarie Island, is scheduled to leave the island at the end of this year. QSL via JE1LET.



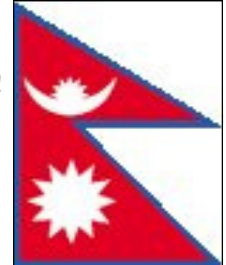
VK0/H, Heard Island ... Preliminary, but serious plans reportedly are underway to put this uninhabited sub-Antarctic island in the Southern Indian Ocean back on air in February 2013. Heard Island is the home to Mt Big Ben which is Australia's highest mountain and only active volcano. Carl, N4AA, editor of **QRZ DX** (www.dxpub.com/) has reported that Chris/VK3FY and Steve/VK6IR are co-leaders in planning for a DXpedition to Heard Island in **February of 2013**. They are proposing a 13 member team for a two week operation. The estimated cost for this operation is



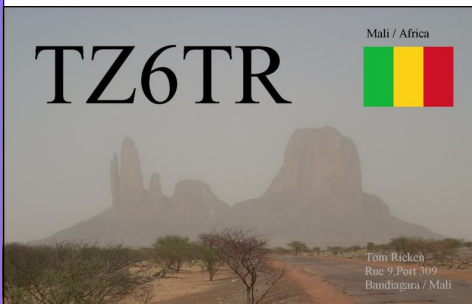
around 500,000 USDs. They are expected to put a Web page online to keep everyone informed. Last operation from Heard Island was back in 1997. The latest ranking by "DX Magazine's Most Wanted Survey" is #5 world-wide.



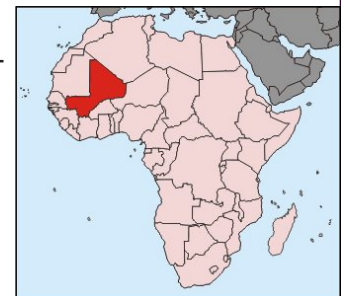
9N-Nepal ... The countdown is underway on the Mediterraneo DX Club's DXpedition to Nepal. It a few weeks the international DXpedition team will be on air from 9N-land! Activity is scheduled to take place between November 13-25th. The team is still looking for support to help pay for all the shipping of the equipment. So they have now initiated the following: For each contribution of at least 10 Euros (about \$13 US), they will send a special supporter pin. This is just the first gadget of various items of merchandising you'll find soon on their Web page. These items will be available before and after their activity.



Visit the "NEPAL I" Web page at: <http://www.mdxc.org/nepal2011>



TZ6TR, Mali ... Tom Ricken, a German Amateur Radio operator, has been QRV in the Tom-boutou region of Mali since March of last year. He's not been heard or spotted that often—only about two dozen times in the last four months—and his signal hasn't been all that strong. Tom's running an IC-706MKIIG into a commercial 40 meter long dipole. Although Mali is ranked 75th on the most wanted list there isn't that much activity from this northwest African country. And when a TZ call is



spotted there's always the questions of it being a pirate. Well, Tom is *not* a pirate and he's there until 2013. He recently posted his QSL information on QRZ.com. So, **Work First and Worry Later...** and GL.

Next NFDXA Meeting: 5 pm Saturday, Oct 15, St Johns Seafood, Lane Ave, Jax

Where in the DX World Am I?



(1) There are no resident hams on this island which lies between two countries that have claimed it at various times. Currently it's leased to one of these entities and bears the ITU prefix assigned to that entity. A planned 2008 DXpedition to this place was cancelled for security reasons because 'foreigners' would be involved. Although this island is not in the top 50 of the most wanted DXCC entities it's not been activated often in the past decade. But when it is you can be sure there will be plenty of activity.

(2) This DXCC entity is a sovereign city state bordered on three sides by one neighboring country and on its 4th side it's less than 10 miles from another country. Its total area is less than 2 square kilometers and it holds the distinction of being the most densely populated country in the world. Additionally, it boasts the world's highest per capita income along with zero unemployment. Its residents have the world's highest life expectancy. It sounds like a great place to be—if you can afford to live here! In contrast it has a distinction of being one of the harder to hear countries here in the US. Its place in the DXCC world is just barely inside the 100 most wanted entities list.



(3) Here's a 'most wanted' wanted DXCC entity that's a world away in more ways than one from country number 2 outlined above. Its population is sparse, an estimated 6 million. Although it has a long coastline that extends for about 1000 kilometers it's not known for being a seafaring nation. At one time it had a strategic significance as a coaling station for passing steamships and was eventually colonized by a European nation. It gained independence after a 30 year long war but its current government is considered very repressive. Its press freedom rating is the world's lowest, even lower than P5 North Korea! A few Ham Radio operations have taken place here, but not that many.

(4) This particular entity has the unique distinction (one among many) of having its own time zone! Although it's officially called an "island" in the singular form, it is actually a coral atoll comprising three islands surrounding a central lagoon. Supposedly the reference to an 'atoll' as an island is a result of a pre-WWII desire by the American Navy to distinguish this atoll from many others, most of which were Japanese territory! The island, or atoll, if you prefer, is an unorganized, unincorporated territory of the United States, administered by the Office of Insular Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior. Access to this entity is restricted, and all current activities are managed by the United States Air Force. There is also a missile facility here operated by the United States Army.



—Credits: Images 1,2 and 3 copied from Google Images; Information and Image 4 are from Wikipedia

Oct-Nov 2011 DX Calendar (Edited from: <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>)

Oct04 Oct26	Reunion	FR	DJ7RJ Direct	By DJ7RJ as FR/DJ7RJ; focus on low bands; 500w; inverted L
Oct05 Dec31	Sable I	CY0	VEIAWW	By VEIAWW as CY0/VEIAWW; spare time operation
Oct07 Oct12	Vietnam	XV	Home Call	By JR3MVF as XV2YL and HLIKDW as XV2KDW; 20 15m; YL ops
Oct08 Oct14	Malta	9H3KX	DL8KX	By DL8KX fm Gozo I (EU-023, MIA MM-004, WLOTA 0046); HF; CW SSB; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct
Oct08 Oct21	Temotu	H40KJ	LotW	By SP5DRH fm Pigeon I (OC-065); 160 80m focus, also 17 15m; CW RTTY; QSL also OK via SP7DQR, Buro or direct
Oct09 Oct17	Canary Is	EA8	LotW	By DL3FCG as TBD fm La Orotava, Tenerife I (AF-004, DIE S-012, WLOTA 1276); 80-10m; CW SSB + digital; QSL also OK via DL3FCG, Buro or direct
Oct10 Nov05	St Kitts & Nevis	V47JA	W5JON	By W5JON fm Calypso Bay, St Kitts (NA-104, FK87pg); 80-6m, incl 60m; SSB; dipole, verts, yagi; also W5HAM occasionally using V47HAM (QSL via W5JON)
Oct12 Oct18	Cape Verde	D44TZN	LotW	By DL1DAW fm Sal I (AF-086, WLOTA 0610); 80-10m; SSB CW RTTY; holiday style operation; QRV for WAG Contest
Oct14 Oct22	Malta	9H9OB	DH7WW	By DG0OHD, DK8YY, DL1AOB, DL1AWD, DL4JS, DL5AOL, DL8ALU and DO5KO fm EU-023; HF + 2m; SSB CW + digital; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct
Oct16 Oct19	Tahiti	TX3T	OQRS	By UT5UY FO5QB UX0HX UZ1HZ US0KW UU4JMG UX0LL RK7A UA7A RA6LBS fm Papeete; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY
Oct17 Nov07	South Cook Is	E51NOU	N7OU	By N7OU fm Rarotonga I (OC-013); 80-10m; CW; spare time operation
Oct18 Nov01	Guinea	3XYID	DL7DF	By DL7UFR DL4WK DK7LX SP3DOI SP3CYY DL7DF; 5 stations; yagis + verticals; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct
Oct19 Oct24	Balearic Is	EA6	DL4ABO Buro	By DL4ABO as EA6/DL4ABO; focus on 30m, CW; QRP
Oct19 Nov01	Marquesas	TX7M	OQRS	By UT5UY FO5QB UX0HX UZ1HZ US0KW UU4JMG UX0LL RK7A UA7A RA6LBS fm Nuku Hiva; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY
Oct19 Nov09	Cocos (Keeling)	VK9CX	DL7AFS	By DJ7ZG DL7AFS fm OC-003; 80-6m; RTTY PSK SSB
Oct20 Oct30	Guernsey	MU	PA9M	By PA6Z team as MU/PA9M; 160-6m; CW SSB
Oct20 Nov03	Saba & St Eustatius	PJ5	Home Call	By SP6EQZ as PJ5/SP6EQZ and SP6IXF as PJ5/SP6IXF; 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY
Oct21 Oct24	Swaziland	3DA0	Home Call	By ZS6AYU as 3DA0GF and ZS6BZP as 3DA0HC; 40-10; 3DA0GF using CW and 3DA0HC using SSB
Oct21 Oct27	Sao Tome & Principe	S9		By K0KKO K0GUV as S92DX, S9CW and S9SX fm AF-023 (WLOTA 1622, JI39gx); HF + 6m (50.105 MHz SSB, 50.105.7 MHz CW)
Oct21 Dec31	Niue	ZK2V	N3SL	By GM3WOJ
Oct22 Oct29	Qatar	A71DLH	DL0LH	By DL1BDF DK2DO DL2NTC DB4XN DF4HR DG3HT; all bands; CW SSB + digital; Lufthansa Amateur Radio Club
Oct23 Oct29	Guam	KH2KY	JA1OZK	By JA1OZK fm OC-027; HF
Oct23 Nov03	Dodecanese	J45PO	ON4PO	By ON4PO
Oct24 Nov09	Fiji	3D2T	VK4FW	By NJ7N NL8F VK4AN VK4FW fm Nadi; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY PSK31

Oct-Nov 2011 DX Calendar...continued (Edited from <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>)

Oct25 Nov01	St Pierre & Miquelon	FP	LotW	KVIJ 20110514	By KVIJ as FP/KVIJ fm Miquelon I; 160-10m, 6m if open, check highest open band; SSB RTTY; QSL also OK via KVIJ, Buro or direct; QRV for CQWW DX SSB
Oct26 Nov03	Central African Republic	TL0CW	9A6A A	OPDX 20110912	By DK7PE; focus on 160 80m CW
Oct27 Nov09	Bonaire	PJ4J	ON4 CIT	VA3RJ 20110930	By OS1T fm SA-006 (WFF PAFF-024, WLOTA 1279); focus on WARC bands; RTTY SSB
Oct27 Nov11	Ivory Coast	TU2T	I2YSB Di- rect	IK7JWY 20111111	By IIHJT I2YSB IK2CIO IK2CKR IK2DIA IK2HKT IK2RZP; QSL also OK via IK2CIO Buro
Oct28 Nov04	Maldives	8Q7SO	JK1K SB	OPDX 20110912	By JK1KSB fm Mirihi I (AS-013, MJ63jo); 80-10m; CW SSB RTTY PSK31; holiday style operation; QSL OK via JARL Buro or direct

CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB (October 29-30, 2011) Check here for pericontest activity too.

Oct31 Nov13	Malawi	7Q7GM	LotW	DXW.Net 20110921	By GM3YTS GM0GAV; focus on 160 80m; CW only; QSL also OK via GM4FDM
Oct31 Nov13	Maldives	8Q7EJ	G3VDB	VA3RJ 20110923	By G3VDB fm Vilamendhoo I (AS-013, WLOTA 391 I, MJ63lp); HF; CW PSK31 SSB RTTY; holiday style operation

November

Nov01 Nov04	Tahiti	TX3T	OQRS	PDXN 20110624	By UT5UY et al from Papeete; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY
Nov02 Nov05	Mariana Is	AH0	LotW	AB2RF 20110928	By AB2RF as AH0/AB2RF fm Saipan (OC-086); low band focus; RTTY PSK ; QSL OK via JJ2RCJ, Buro or direct
Nov02 Nov12	Maldives	8Q7CC	I0WDX	OPDX 20110704	By I0WDX fm Furanafushi I (AS-013); 20-6m, perhaps 40m; CW RTTY
Nov06 Nov25	Guadeloupe	FG		DK9PY 20110922	By DK9PY as TBD; 80-10m; CW; 15kHz up fm band edge
Nov07 Nov21	Barbados	8P	Home Call	DXW.Net 20110912	By DL8YHR as 8P9DL, also DL9MS using 8P9MS and DL2NUD using 8P9HP; HF + 6 2m EME
Nov08 Nov22	North Cook Is	E5I	N7OU	N7OU 20110710	By N7OU as TBA; 160m-10m; CW; focus on Europe
Nov10 Dec06	Tuvalu	T2T	OQRS	DXW.Net 20110505	By 6 ops fm OC-015 (RI91ol); 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY PSK31; QRV for CQ WW DX CW
Nov13 Nov21	Nepal	9N0MD	TBA	OPDX 20110502	By 4Z4DX et al, HF; SSB CW RTTY; 3-4 stations
Nov15 Dec17	Madagascar	5R8IC	F6ICX	VA3RJ 20110624	F6ICX fm Nosy Boraha (AF-090, WLOTA 0491); CW RTTY PSK63; 100w; QSL via REF Buro or direct
Nov17 Nov28	American Samoa	K8A	W4PA	W4PA 20110620	By W4PA + others; 160-10m, focus on low bands; focus on CW, also SSB RTTY; QRV for CQ WW DX CW
Nov19 Dec03	St Lucia	J68HZ	K9HZ	DXW.Net 20110902	By K9HZ fm Castries; check 7.155, 14.155 MHz 16-2400z
Nov20 Dec03	Kenya	5Z4HW	DL7DF	DL7DF 20110620	By DL7DF fm nr Mombasa; 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY PSK31 SSTV; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct; holiday style operation
Nov22 Dec04	Sierra Leone	9L0W	DK2VW	DXW.Net 20111004	By DJ8NK et al fm Banana I (AF-037); 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY PSK; 700w; Hexbm, verts; QRV CQWW DX CW
Nov23 Dec14	Uganda	5X	G3RWF	VA3RJ 20110930	By G3RWF as TBD fm Fort Portal; focus on low bands; QSL OK via Buro or direct
Nov24 Nov28	Sint Maarten	PJ7I	JG2BRI	K1GI 20110903	By K1GI; 80-6m; SSB CW + digital; 500w; vert, hex beam

CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW (November 26-27, 2011) Check here for pericontest activity too.



NFDXA-CQ DX Full Marathon Standings-Sept 12, 2011

Call	Countries	Zones	IOTA	Total
AB4UF	0	0	0	0
AC4ET	0	0	0	0
K3LB	204	40	92	336
K4EB	241	40	179	460
K4UTE	261	40	212	513
KB4CRT	7	7	4	18
KC4FWS	1	1	0	2
KX4WW	0	0	0	0
NIWON	206	38	126	370
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
N4UF	0	0	0	0
NF4L	159	38	75	272
NO4J	0	0	0	0
NU4Y	0	0	0	0
NW4C	88	32	39	159
W4FDA	16	12	0	28
W4GAL	0	0	0	0
W4GJ	174	37	46	257
WA4B	0	0	0	0
WA4ET	0	0	0	0
WR4K	146	35	78	259

Full-MARATHON RULES

Between 1 Jan and 31 Dec 2011 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.

The DX Apprentice System

Under 100 - Novice DXer,
100-200 - Apprentice DXer
201-300 - Journeyman DXer
301-331 - Craftsman DXer
Honor Roll and above - Master DXer.

-- e-Ham comment by W2IRT

DX

The Ultimate Contact Sport

REVISED REGION 1 HF BANDPLAN UNVEILED

A revised International Amateur Radio Union Region One High Frequency Band Plan has been published. The changes are minor, and affect only the 40 and 10 meter bands in Europe, Africa and the middle-East.

On 40 meters, the CW contest-preferred segment of 7.000 to 7.025 MHz has been withdrawn. In practice this means that CW contests on 40 meters are no longer confined in Region 1 to the first 25 kHz segment.

On 10 meters the changes pertain to the FM portion of the band. This includes adjustments to the simplex channels and the addition of four new repeater channels. A copy of the new IARU Region 1 High Frequency Band Plan can be obtained at <http://www.irts.ie/downloads>.

--IARU - R1 via AR Newsline



Answers to page 11 DX Quiz: Where in the DX World am I?

- (1) R1MV Malyj Vysotskij
- (2) 3A2 Monaco
- (3) E3 Eritrea
- (4) KH9 Wake Island

AK-47 first prize in Somali radio competition for kids



9-year old with AK47

An Islamist-backed radio station in Somalia has awarded assault rifles and hand grenades to the winners of a children's Koran recital competition.

Radio Andalus, run by the al-Shabab rebel militia, said the first prize was an AK-47 and £450 (€517). The runner-up received an AK-47 and £320, while the child who came third received two FI hand grenades and £250. The three children also received religious books.

Pictures of the senior Islamist leader and spokesman Sheikh Mukhtar Robow presenting the awards in Elasha Biyaha, about 20km from Mogadishu, were posted on a rebel-affiliated website.



FI Russian Hand Grenade

Al-Shabab controls much of southern Somalia and is trying to overthrow the transitional government in Mogadishu. The group, designated a terrorist organisation by several western governments, has links to al-Qaeda and practises an extreme version of Islam. In certain areas al-Shabab leaders have banned musical mobile phone ringtones, films, football broadcasts, dancing at weddings and even shop signs written in English or Somali rather than in Arabic. Punishments for infringements include double amputations and stonings. The rebels have also systematically recruited children under 15 to fight for them, according to Amnesty International.

The Koran recital contest has been running for three years and takes place after Ramadan. The two previous award ceremonies have occurred in Kismayo, an al-Shabab stronghold on the far southern coast. In 2009, prizes included hand grenades, anti-tank mines and an AK-47. The winners of that contest were between 17 and 20 years of age.

The precise ages of the winners of this year's competition are not known. Radio Andalus takes its name from Andalusia in southern Spain, part of successive Islamic caliphates between the eighth and 15th centuries. —www.southgatearc.org/news/

All DX0DX Donations Will Be Refunded In Full -VK3FY



Chris Dimitrijevic, VK3FY, says that every dollar donated to the now cancelled **DX0DX Spratly Island DXpedition** will be refunded. In an e-mail statement, VK3FY says that as the organizer and team leader of the DX0DX operation that he will refund every team member, sponsor and the generous DX foundations the full amount of their contribution payment made. Previously, it was announced that the refunds may be less than the amount contributed. However, VK3FY says that he will personally make up any monetary shortfalls from his own funds.

The long planned DX0DX operation was cancelled in September due to concerns about personal safety of those traveling with the DXpedition to the disputed Spratlys which are claimed by six Asian nations: China, Taiwan, Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei. A Malaysian team headed by 9M4SDX is planning a Spratly operation in April 2012.

For information concerning DX0DX refunds including refunds to DX Foundations e-mail chris@vk3fy.com.

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>),
Finally, off air and word of mouth from those who turned on their radios, operated and then told **The PileUp** what they heard.

It's the Law!

The chances of a splat of hot solder hitting the floor are directly correlated to the newness and cost of your shag carpet or Persian rug.

Ten Commandments of Electronics

1. **Beware of the lightning** that lurks in an undischarged capacitor lest it cause thee to be bounced upon thy backside in a most un-gentlemanly manner.
2. **Cause thou the switch** that supplies large quantities juice to be opened and thus tagged, so thy days may be long in the world.
3. **Probe to thy self** that all circuits that radiateth, and upon which thou worketh, are grounded lest they lift thee to high frequency potential and cause thee to radiate.
4. **Take care thou useth** the proper method when thou taketh the measure of high voltage circuits so that thou doth not incinerate both thee and the meter, for verily, though hast no account number and can be easily replaced, the meter doth have one and as a consequence bringeth much woe upon the supply department.
5. **Tarry not amongst those** who engage in intentional shocks, for they are surely non-believers and not long for this world.
6. **Take care thou tampereth not** with interlocks and safety devices, for this will incur the wrath of thy seniors and bring the fury of the safety officer down upon thy head and shoulder.
7. **Work not upon energised equipment**, for if thou doeth, thy buddies will surely be buying beer without thee, and the space at the bar will be filled by another.
8. **Verily I say unto thee**, NEVER service high voltage equipment alone, for electric cooking is a slothful process, and thou might sizzle for hours on end before thy maker sees fit to end thy misery and drag thee into his fold.
9. **Trifle not with radioactive equipment** lest thou commence to glow in the dark like unto a lightning bug.
10. **Commit thee to memory** the words of the prophets, which are written in instruction books, which giveth thou the straight dope, and which consoleth thee, and thou canst not make mistakes.

— Author Unknown

The Last Word

Time Marches On, as the title of the old movie short proclaims. Keep that phrase in mind as we approach the end of my tenure as president of NFDXA. According to our by-laws (<http://nfdxa.com/bl/bylaws.htm>) the club holds its election of officers in November and the new administration 'takes the helm' Jan 1.

I mention this now so all of us can start giving thought to possible candidates for 2012 to hold NFDXA's four elected positions: president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. The positions and duties are outlined in sections 3 and 4 of the club's by-laws.

NFDXA is a small, but pretty tightly knit group and over time the four elected offices tend to get passed back and forth among certain individuals. One of our long-time office-holders has indicated publically he'd like to step down after many years of service and let someone else take over.

So think about it. If you can't come up with another person to be a candidate consider volunteering yourself. If you do this it ensures someone worthwhile is running for the job.

— Warren NW4C

<http://nfdxa.com>



W4ZR