



Long Path



Volume 34 Issue 1

SEMDXA NEWSLETTER

January 2024



PRES Sez

Hi all,

I want to wish everyone in the club a Happy New Year! I hope the year is off to a great start for you and you were able to enjoy the holidays! We are off and running in 2024. I wonder how many new countries I will get this year. How many new countries do you need? They are getting harder and harder to come by since I have joined the club. My goal for this year is to get to 300 countries. Not sure if that is even possible. But since I work at home, I'm in front of my Radio all day long so I have the seat time to do it. Time will tell.

Speaking of new countries to get, I see there will be another DXpedition to Bouvet. This group has contracted to be on the island for 21 days and around the island for 30 days. I was not able to get them the last time. I started to copy them many times on FT8 but it never complete. I'm excited that maybe this time I will have a chance since they will setup stations on a different part of the island and a dedicated camp for North America (low angle take off) so maybe I can get them on Phone, Digital (FT8/CW). This same DXpedition will also go to Peter I Island in 2026 and stay there for 14 days. The vessel is a proper Antarctica vessel with 2 helicopters, two Expedition leaders and with all permits needed. Lots of good DXing coming in the next few years for operators like myself that still need these.

I have made progress on countries/entities that I have made contact with. Last reported I was at 267 contacts to different countries/entities. 233 are confirmed. I am now at 269 with 234 confirmed. Even more progress!! I need to send a few cards out or get on Club Log and get some of these rarer entities confirmed!

The Prez – 73's

NEXT Meeting:

In-Person

January 10th, 2024 at 7 PM

Fork n' Pint in Waterford

Program

Adrian Ciuperca KO8SCA

Presenting W8S Swains Island DXpedition

SEMDXA OFFICERS

President: Fred Goeckel, **KD8ZYD**

Vice-president: Pete Gladysz, **K8PGJ**

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DXCC Checker: Bill Jones, **N8KF**

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VUCC Checker: Jim Sanford, **K8ZZU**

CQ Checker: Mike Rudzki, **N8MR**

CQ Checker: Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

2023 Christmas Gathering



Happy Holidays



Seasons Greetings
Hope to see you next year at the Zuky Lake Tavern

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=N0t3N1RpUFZjVGQzZHZwTnU0bHpuUT09>

From the Desk of the Editor



I just created this box, and now I forgot what I was going to say! **Happy New Year** to start.

In the upper right corner of this page you'll read my dissertation on "Not Cancelled Yet" Hope it's gone for good unless the membership would like to see it remain in print as a reminder that Dayton Hamvention is not cancelled, etc, etc, etc

I generated a new "Periodic Table of Major Amateur Radio Contests" You'll find a copy further in the publication as well as a link to a printable copy on our Webpage.

Pete K8PGJ

I will be operating from the Caymans as ZF2PG from Jan 15 thru 20 including the NAQP SSB Contest on the 20th which starts at 1800z.

NOT CANCELLED YET

- "Not Cancelled Yet is being cancelled. I believe it's usefulness has come and gone. Originally created during the COVID epidemic to help us keep abreast of what was and what was not cancelled, it would appear (at least from the North looking South) that "normality" has returned to the Amateur Radio environment.
- Let us keep our fingers crossed that the need for this Column will NEVER need to be resurrected.

Hamfests

1/15/24 - SCARF Hamfest, Shade, OH

1/20/24 - Vintage Electronics, SouthField, MI

2/17/24 - Livonia ARC. Livonia MI

George W8UVZ - SK

George Taft, W8UVZ passed away December 21, 2023.

Here's a link to his obituary: [George Taft obituary](#)

I met George many times at W9DXCC. I built his Battle Creek Special for 160, 80 and 40M. We'd always bring that up in conversation. He was a fine gentleman. RIP George.

FK - New Caledonia

Stan LZ1GC together with Ted LZ5QZ will be active from New Caledonia as FK/LZ1GC and FK/LZ5QZ during March 10-19, 2024.

H44WA Solomon Is.

The H40WA Team is pleased to report that all of our equipment has now arrived in Temotu and is now in dry storage awaiting our arrival on February 22nd. As you may recall, we shipped this equipment in July!

We also want to remind everyone that our new dates for the H40WA DXpedition are February 22nd to March 7th, 2024.

We have moved our website to a new URL: <https://intrepid-dx.com/h40wa/>

Best wishes and Merry Christmas from the H40WA Team!

Paul N6PSE

W9DXCC 2024

Mark your calendar as the W9DXCC convention will take place at the Marriot in Naperville, Illinois on September 13-14. This year's event will include Contest-University and DX-U on Friday September 13. The complete program details "will follow later in the year". <https://w9dxcc.com>

JW - Svalbard

Jack, M0PLX will be active from Spitsbergen, Svalbard as JW/M0PLX during January 1-5, 2024. QRV on 160-10m, SSB.



A3 - Tonga



W7YAQ, Bob and K7AR, Al will be active from the Nukuma'anu Cottages in Nuku'Alofa, Tonga from February 13-27, 2024. They will use Elecraft K line stations. Antennas include a DX Commander Expedition Model, Butternut HF9V vertical and an inverted L for 160. We also use a pennant loop receive antenna for the low bands. We will be active in the ARRL CW Contest as a multi single effort.

3Y0I - Bouvet Is.



The 3Y0I Bouvet project is on track. Zoom meeting with team members recently finished.

Whole radio equipment, set of 14 radios, amplifiers and over 14 antennas will be loaded on the vessel in Europe. (We own our radio equipment, we don't need to be begging from any foundations or clubs for \$\$\$). Winter camp equipment, generators and all important things to make this happen are waiting already in South Africa. Currently requesting 3Y0I license to be renewed by Norwegian authorities.

CLUBLOG

Most wanted - Top 25

1	P5	DPRK (NORTH KOREA)
2	BS7H	SCARBOROUGH REEF
3	CE0X	SAN FELIX ISLANDS
4	BV9P	PRATAS ISLAND
5	KH7K	KURE ISLAND
6	KH3	JOHNSTON ISLAND
7	FT/G	GLORIOSO ISLAND
8	3Y/P	PETER 1 ISLAND
9	FT5/X	KERGUELEN ISLAND
10	YV0	AVES ISLAND
11	3Y/B	BOUVET ISLAND
12	ZS8	PRINCE EDWARD & MARION
13	KH4	MIDWAY ISLAND
14	VK0M	MACQUARIE ISLAND
15	PY0S	SAINT PETER AND PAUL ROCKS
16	PY0T	TRINDADE & MARTIM VAZ
17	KP5	DESECHEO ISLAND
18	VP8S	SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS
19	KH5	PALMYRA & JARVIS ISLANDS
20	ZL9	NEW ZEALAND SUBANTARCTIC
21	FK/C	CHESTERFIELD ISLANDS
22	VK0H	HEARD ISLAND
23	EZ	TURKMENISTAN
24	FT/T	TROMELIN ISLAND
25	YK	SYRIA

FW - Wallis Is.

Stan, LZ1GC informs that he and Ted LZ5QZ will be active from Wallis Island, OC-054 as FW8GC and TX8GC during February 19 to March 9, 2024. QRV on 160-10m; CW, SSB, RTTY & FT8/4. Air tickets, licenses and accommodation all in hand / reserved.

3Y0K - Bouvet Is.



To date we have secured \$22,000 of the remaining \$150,000 needed to reach the expedition budget. January and February are critical months to achieve the needed funding to make the expedition viable.

We will begin the purchase of equipment not committed as donations and continue to solicit sponsor agreements, but every dollar helps so please visit 3y0k.com and click that little donate button and remember, Century Club Donors will receive a special Thank You regardless of being in the log or not.

Coming in late February / early March we will have the vessel inspection to verify its seaworthiness for the long journey from the Falklands to Bouvet. At this time, we must make the first \$100,000 deposit presuming the boat passes professional inspection so funding is time critical, please help if you can, with whatever you can.

We will also be procuring the custom-made tents to survive the harsh environment found from our previous activation of Bouvet as well as proper antenna systems. As earlier posted, we have a commitment from RF-KITS for five of their newest 2KW solid state amplifiers. Thanks to them for such a generous offer!

Up to June we will complete the testing of the remote equipment on a South Pacific expedition by some of our friends in the DX community and begin training the chosen remote operators. Note that the remote will be FT modes – all SSB and CW will be from the island only.

KB2FMH / Pilot and media officer.

PERIODIC TABLE OF MAJOR AMATEUR RADIO CONTESTS

by Chet VE3CFK

Start Day (UTC) → 11 → 12 ← End Day (UTC)

Start Time (UTC) → 2200Z → 1800Z ← End Time (UTC)

Contest Name

2024

Multimode

CW

Digital

Off-the-air

SSB

VHF/UHF

Jan		Feb		Mar		Apr		May		Jun		Jul		Aug		Sep		Oct		Nov		Dec	
1 0900Z	1 2359Z	4 2300Z	5 0300Z	2 0000Z	3 2400Z	6 1500Z	7 1500Z	4 VARIES	5 VARIES	1 1800Z	2 2359Z	1 0600Z	1 2359Z	3 1800Z	4 0600Z	7 0000Z	7 2359Z	5 0600Z	6 0600Z	2 2100Z	4 0300Z	6 2200Z	8 1800Z
HAPPY NEW YEAR		NA Sprint CW		ARRL DX SSB		SP Polish DX		7QP/IN/DE New England QSO Parties		ARRL Int’nl Digital		RAC CANADA DAY		NAQP CW		CW Ops CW Open		Oceania PHONE		ARRL SS CW		ARRL 160 CW	
6 0800Z	7 2359Z	10 0000Z	11 2359Z	10 0000Z	10 0359Z	13 0700Z	14 1300Z	11 1200Z	12 1159Z	8 1800Z	10 0300Z	6 1400Z	7 1400Z	10 0000Z	11 2359Z	14 0000Z	15 2359Z	12 0800Z	13 0600Z	9 0000Z	10 2359Z	14 0000Z	15 2359Z
ARRL RTTY Roundup		CQWW WPX RTTY		NA Sprint RTTY		JIDX CW		CQ-M DX		ARRL June VHF		MARCONI MEMORIAL HF		WAE CW		WAE SSB		Oceania CW		WAE RTTY		ARRL 10 Meter	
13 0800Z	14 0559Z	17 0000Z	18 2400Z	16 1200Z	17 1200Z	20 1800Z	21 0400Z	16 1200Z	16 2100Z	15 0000Z	16 2400Z	13 1200Z	14 1200Z	17 1800Z	18 0600Z	21 VARIES	22 VARIES	19 1500Z	20 1459Z	16 2100Z	18 0300Z	24 0000Z	25 2359Z
NAQP CW		ARRL DX CW		Russian DX		Michigan QSO Party		Contest University		All Asian CW		IARU HF		NAQP SSB		WA/NJ/NH QSO Parties		Worked All Germany		ARRL SS SSB		Happy Holidays	
20 1800Z	21 0559Z	23 2200Z	24 2200Z	24 0000Z	24 2359Z	27 1200Z	28 1200Z	17 1300Z	19 1700Z	22 1800Z	23 2100Z	20 1800Z	21 2100Z	24 1200Z	25 1200Z	28 0000Z	29 2400Z	26 0000Z	27 2400Z	23 0000Z	24 2359Z	28 0000Z	28 2359Z
NAQP SSB		CQ 160 SSB		NA SSB SPRINT		SP DX RTTY		Hamvention		ARRL Field Day		CQ WW VHF		WW Digi		CQWW RTTY		CQ WW SSB		CQ WW CW		RAC Winter	
26 2200Z	28 2200Z			30 0000Z	31 2359Z			25 0000Z	26 2359Z			27 1200Z	28 1200Z										
CQ 160 CW				CQWW WPX SSB				CQ WPX CW				RSGB IOTA											

Rev 1

Credits for the Periodic Table of Major Amateur Radio Contests

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

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

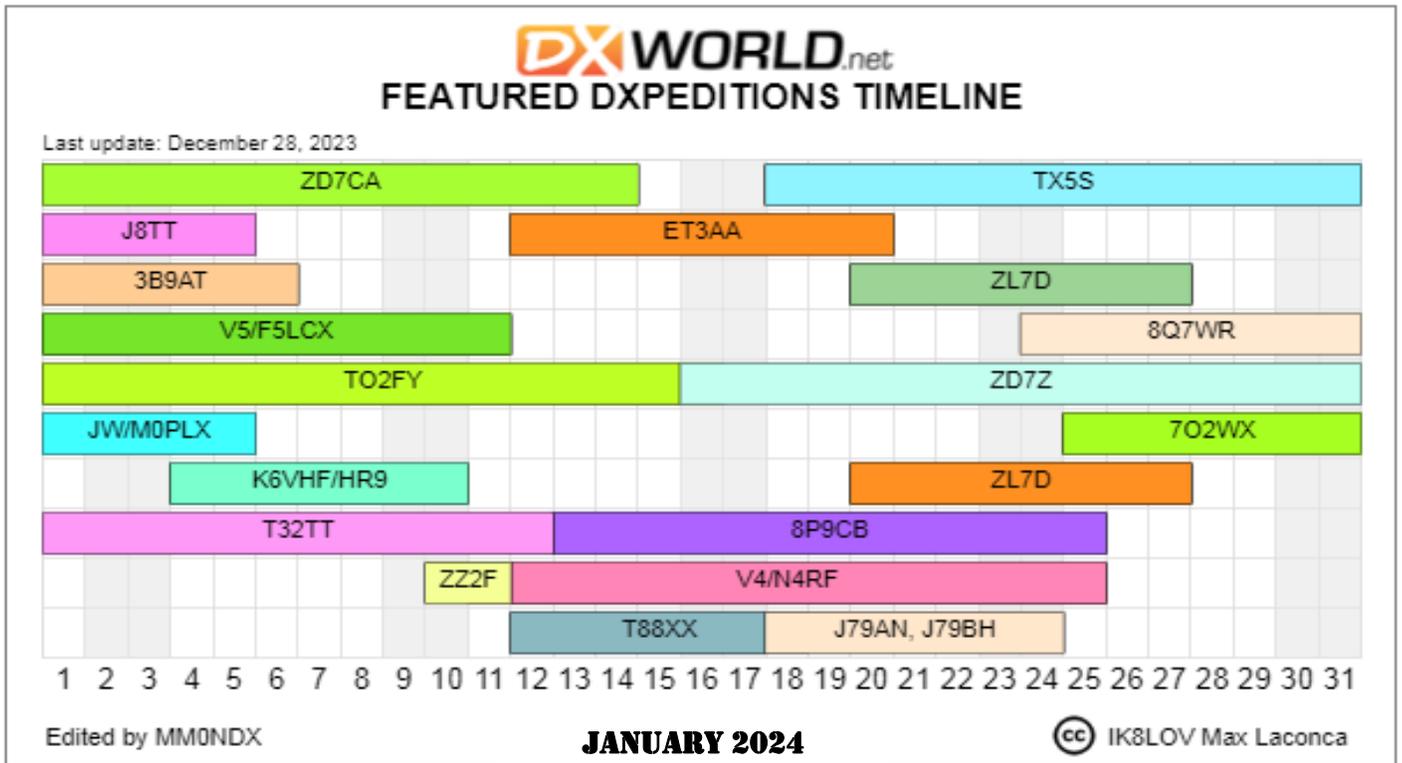
A better quality copy of the above calendar is available from the SEMDXA website. Here is a direct [LINK](#) to the calendar.

DUES are DUE

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

Upcoming DX

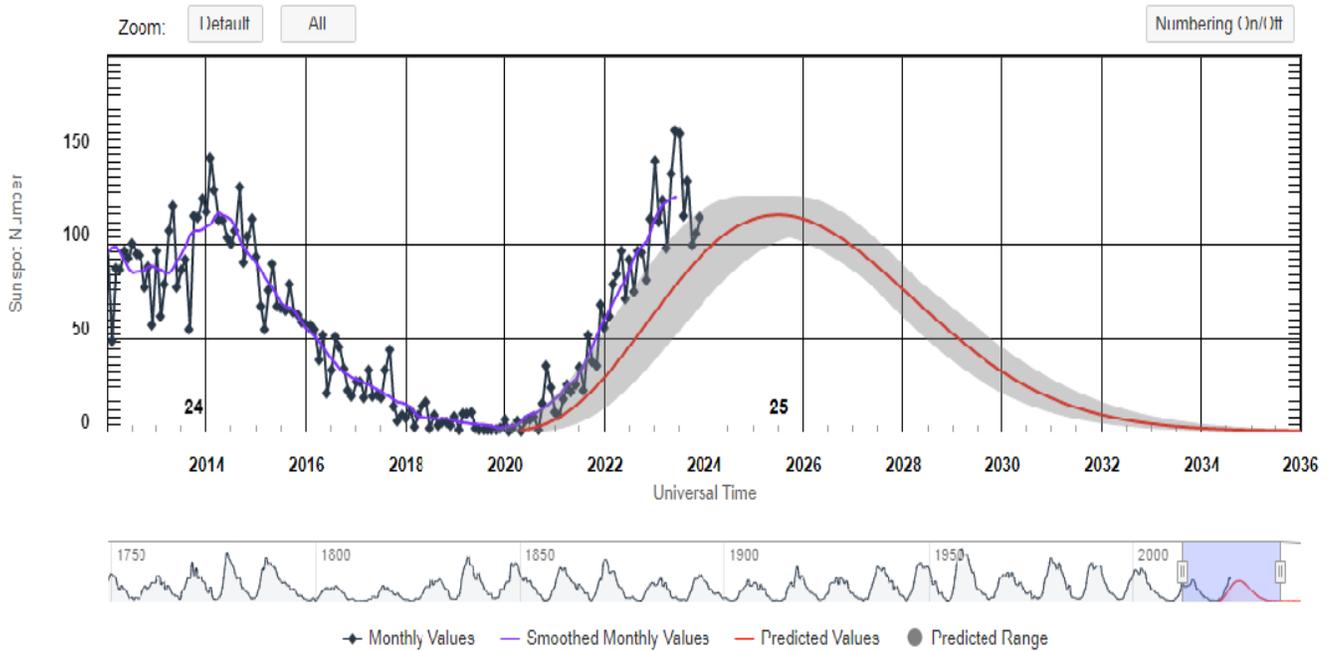
Credit to DX World



SOLAR CYCLE 25

NOAA/SWPC

ISES Solar Cycle Sunspot Number Progression



Space Weather Prediction Center

TX5S - Clipperton



The DXpedition equipment is packed and ready for the voyage to Clipperton Island, the team will begin assembling in San Diego on January 8th. Weather permitting, we expect a 6 day voyage each way, camp setup will take approximately 1.5 – 2 days.

Stu K6TU has again made his personalized propagation tools available at no charge during TX5S. You can click on the logo displayed at: <https://clip.pdxg.net/k6tu-propagation-tools/>

Another package of free to use propagation tools are available by clicking the link at: <https://clip.pdxg.net/dr2w-propagation-tool/>

TX5S donations are only at ~53% of the goal. While adding a donation to your OQRS request is always appreciated, the cash flow challenge is real, the bills must be paid before we sail. We wish to thank the organizations and individuals who have already pledged their support to TX5S and ask those of you who have not yet processed a donation to consider supporting the project before we sail on January 11, 2024.

Unless otherwise noted, we will use WSJT-X in Fox/Hound mode. You must transmit above 1,000hz.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/tx5s2024>

Website: TX5S.net

Groups.IO: Clipperton-2024

Questions to: info@pdxg.net

DX IS!

One of the local QRPers was by last week and, in spite of the warm day, insisted on discussing the Mysteries of the Ages. “Tell me”, this QRPer says with that always entrancing beady-eyed smile, “just what is meant by ‘DX Is?’” I hear many of the older DXers quoting it but few seem to understand or be able to explain it. What is it?” We groaned inwardly for, as most joggers know, the four minute mile is definitely attainable but hardly to we more mature types. The explanation and understanding of the Eternal Enigmas comes only to the Anointed Ones. It’s arrival is always marked by the clash of cymbals and the blare of massed trumpets. So we parried with a question of our own: “Those who understand,” we asked, “just what are their DXCC totals?” Quicker than a wink the QRPer was back. “Why, most of them appear to be on the Honor Roll,” he said and we nodded sagely. “When you are there,” we grandly advised, “you too will understand. Meanwhile, you have to be a Believer. Be a Believer and you will be Deserving. Always believe.” It was obvious that the QRPer was thinking things over but was not convinced. “But I don’t understand,” he complained, as we knew he might. Like the four-minute mile, some things are only available to the anointed ones. At this point we were grateful that QRPer had not thought to ask how to be anointed. For there are levels of understanding and knowledge in DXing and you will know more in looking back than in looking forward.

Hugh Cassidy went on to say:

In the final analysis, what did it all mean? As the Old Timer was heard to say on more than one occasion “if you had to ask the question, you’ll never understand the answer!” But if you are a Believer, you will not need to ask the questions. All the best DXers always are...

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio
Contest/DX Page

Editors NOTE:

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

Start Date	End Date	Dxcc Entity	Call	QSL via	Reported by
2023					
December					
2023 Dec16	2024 Jan13	St Helena	ZD7CA [spots]	EA5GL	425DXN 20231208
2023 Dec26	2024 Jan05	St Vincent	J8TT [spots]	LoTW	TDDX 20231203
2023 Dec27	2024 Jan06	Rodrigues I	3B9AT [spots]	LoTW	DXW.Net 20230807
2023 Dec28	2024 Jan11	Namibia	V5 [spots]	LoTW	DXW.Net 20231208
2023 Dec28	2024 Jan11	Tonga	A31DJ [spots]	VK4MAP Direct	TDDX 20231230
2023 Dec29	2024 Jan16	French Guiana	TO2FY [spots]	eQSL	DXW.Net 20231112
2024					
January					
2024 Jan01	2024 Jan05	Svalbard	JW [spots]	SP7DPJ	DXW.Net 20231207
2024 Jan03	2024 Jan10	Honduras	HR9	LoTW	TDDX 20231201
2024 Jan11	2024 Jan24	Barbados	8P9CB	LoTW	TDDX 20231102
2024 Jan11	2024 Jan25	St Kitts & Nevis	V4	LoTW	TDDX 20231203
2024 Jan11	2024 Jan30	Montserrat	VP2MDX	LoTW	DXW.Net 20230807
2024 Jan12	2024 Jan18	Palau	T8	See Info	DXW.Net 20230922
2024 Jan12	2024 Jan20	Ethiopia	ET3AA	N2OO	DXW.Net 20231129
2024 Jan16	2024 Feb04	St Helena	ZD7Z	LoTW	DXW.Net 20231201
2024 Jan17	2024 Jan24	Dominica	J79	Club Log OQRS	FM5BH 20230908
2024 Jan18	2024 Feb01	Clipperton I	TX5S	LoTW	DXW.Net 20230321

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio
Contest/DX Page

2024 Jan19	2024 Jan31	Aruba <small>NEW</small>	P4	Club Log OQRS	DL4MM 20231024
2024 Jan20	2024 Jan27	Chatham I	ZL7D	EA3FLW	DXW.Net 20231212
2024 Jan21	2024 Jan28	African Italy	IG9	S57DX	S59A 20231212
2024 Jan22	2024 Feb01	Indonesia	YB9	LoTW	TDDX 20231219
2024 Jan24	2024 Feb06	Maldives	8Q7WR	See Info	TDDX 20231213
2024 Jan25	2024 Feb12	Yemen	7O2WX	IZ8CCW	DXW.Net 20231111
2024 Jan28	2024 Jan28	Pitcairn I	VP6		DXW.Net 20231220
February					
2024 Feb04	2024 Feb11	Vanuatu	YJ	LoTW	JH3QFL 20231212
2024 Feb06	2024 Feb20	Antigua & Barbuda	V26CV	LoTW	TDDX 20231222
2024 Feb10	2024 Feb18	Georgia	4L	LoTW	TDDX 20231201
2024 Feb10	2024 Feb24	Juan Fer- nandez	CB0ZA	HA1AG	DXW.Net 20230605
2024 Feb10	2024 Feb28	Solomon Is	H44MS	LoTW	TDDX 20231111
2024 Feb14	2024 Feb24	Guyana	8R	LoTW	DK6SP 20230611
ARRL International DX Contest, CW (Feb 17-18, 2024) Check here for					
2024 Feb19	2024 Mar09	Wallis & Fu- tuna	FW8	LoTW	DXW.Net 20231227
2024 Feb20	2024 Feb27	Mauritius	3B8	LoTW	TDDX 20230725
2024 Feb22	2024 Mar07	Temotu	H40WA	LoTW	N6PSE 20230126
2024 Feb25	2024 Mar04	St Kitts & Nevis	V4	K1ZN	K1ZN 20230925

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio
Contest/DX Page

March					
2024 Mar01	2024 Mar31	Benin	TY5C	LoTW	DXW.Net 20230920
ARRL International DX Contest, Phone (Mar 2-3, 2024) Check here for					
2024 Mar02	2024 Mar30	Sint Maarten	PJ7AA	LoTW	TDDX 20230807
2024 Mar03	2024 Mar11	Curacao	PJ2	LoTW	DK5ON 20231212
2024 Mar03	2024 Mar22	Grenada	J38R		DXW.Net 20231223
2024 Mar04	2024 Mar16	Grenada	J3	LoTW	ON4MA 20230622
2024 Mar08	2024 Mar20	Tanzania	5H3VJG	M0OXO	DXW.Net 20231202
2024 Mar10	2024 Mar19	New Caledonia	FK	LoTW	DXW.Net 20231227
2024 Mar11	2024 Mar27	Curacao	PJ2	LoTW	DK5ON 20231219
2024 Mar16	2024 Mar21	Bahamas	C6A	LoTW	TDDX 20231115
2024 Mar19	2024 Mar30	Lesotho	7P8EI	M0OXO	TDDX 20231203
2024 Mar25	2024 Apr03	Austral Is	TX5XG	LoTW	DXW.Net 20230810
2024 Mar29	2024 Mar31	Mayotte	TO4VV	LoTW	DXW.Net 20230902
2024 Apr05	2024 Apr07	Mayotte	TO4VV	LoTW	DXW.Net 20230902
2024 Apr12	2024 Apr14	Mayotte	TO4VV	LoTW	DXW.Net 20230902
July					
2024 Jul02	2024 Jul15	St Pierre & Miquelon	FP	LoTW	TDDX 20231024
RSGB IOTA Contest (Jul 27-28, 2024) Check here for pericontest activity					

Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

August					
2024 Aug23	2024 Sep30	Tristan da Cunha	ZD9GJ	LoTW	DXW.Net 20231123
2025					
January					
2025 Jan05	2025 Jan26	Bouvet I	3Y0K	TBA	DXW.Net 20231202

