Volume 35 Issue 2 SEMDXA NEWSLETTER February 2025



# PRES Sez

Hi all,

Well, here we are and its already February. My, does time fly!

#### **DXCC Application Processing Caught Up**

In case you were wondering, the DXCC® application processing is back to typical processing times. As reported, in October, we reported that the ARRL DXCC® System had been returned to service following work that was completed to ensure the security and integrity of the system following the cyber-attack in May. Over 4,000 DXCC applications have been logged into the system for processing since returning the system to service.

We are currently processing applications submitted in December, and we continue to mail orders for paper DXCC certificates and endorsement stickers. There were 315 certificates mailed between December 27, 2024, and January 13, 2025.

DXCC, the DX Century Club, is ARRL's most popular award. DXCC is achieved by confirming amateur radio contacts with a minimum of 100 entities on the ARRL DXCC List (entities are the distinct geographic and political entities).

In the last newsletter I asked, how are your antennas working so far this winter? Now would be a good time to start planning for any antenna work come springtime. It's funny that I wrote about this. Last week (Jan 25th) I looked up at my dipole and one of the ladder line feed legs had broken. Oh, great I thought. The good news was the very cold spell was over and the day I was able to fix it, only took about 3 hours by the time I dropped it, fixed it and got it back up, it must have been 40 degrees in the sun! Yes, I was very lucky!

(continued page 2)

**NEXT Meeting:** 

In-Person

### February 19th.

2025 at 7 PM

Fork n' Pint in Waterford

**Program** 

Mike Martin
of
RFI Services

## Part II

#### **SEMDXA OFFICERS**

President: Fred Goeckel, KD8ZYD Vice-president: Pete Gladysz, K8PGJ Treasurer: Brad Nowak, N8SNM Secretary: Chet Latawiec, VE3CFK Program Director: VACANT Director: Doug Basberg, N8VY

**Club Appointees:** 

Web Site Editor: Doug Basberg, N8VY LP Publisher: Chet Latawiec, VE3CFK

ARRL and CQ Appointees:

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SEMDXA Web Site: www.semdxa.org

### **Prez Sez**

(continued from page 1)

#### FCC Upholds Record \$34,000 Forfeiture Against Amateur Licensee

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) assessed a record \$34,000 forfeiture against an amateur radio licensee for "willfully and repeatedly operating a radio station without authorization and interfering with the radio communications of the United States Forest Service ... while the U.S. Forest Service and the Idaho Department of Lands were attempting to direct the operations of fire suppression aircraft working a 1,000-acre wildfire on national forest land outside of Elk River, Idaho."

As ARRL News first reported in 2022, the FCC proposed the fine against Jason Frawley of Lewiston, Idaho, for allegedly interfering with radio operations of the U.S. Forest Service during firefighting activities for the Johnson Creek Fire near Elk River in July 2021. The FCC stated in the Notice of Apparent Liability (NAL) that Frawley holds an Extra-class Amateur Radio Service license, WA7CQ, and is the owner/operator of Leader Communications LLC, licensee of eight microwave licenses and one business license.

In response, Frawley acknowledged that he operated on a frequency reserved for government use and for which he lacked authorization but argues that he did not cause interference to the government's fire suppression activities that were being coordinated on the channel and acted with "good faith and non-malicious intent to help." Frawley requested a reduction or cancellation of the proposed forfeiture based on the number and duration of the unauthorized transmissions, his history of compliance and corrective measures, and his inability to pay the proposed forfeiture.

In the Forfeiture Order released on January 3, 2025, the FCC rejected Frawley's request and assessed the full proposed forfeiture of \$34,000. Read more about the story in previous coverage from ARRL News..

I have made progress on countries/entities that I have made contact with. Last reported I was at 288 contacts to different countries/entities. 269 are confirmed. I am now at 288 with 271 confirmed. Even more progress!!

I'm 12 away to 300 contacts and only 31 away from 300 confirmed!! I thought I had 289 contacts but we all heard what happened with Mount Athos (SV1GA/A) and Adrian. It looks like they all will make it back safe, not sure of the status of their gear.

Shirts!! Below are 2 website you can pic your shirt, coat, really anything they sell my friend can embroider our logo, etc on. At the last meeting of the year in the spring I wore my new shirt. I stepped up and got a Nike shirt which I love. Shirts will be around \$50 if you want a Nike shirt. She has shirts that cost less. Just let me know what your looking for and I'll get it ordered. Please let me know if you have any questions. She can add your call, name, anything you want on the shirt.

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Wholesale Apparel, Bags and Caps | SanMar

The Prez - 73's

#### **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=N0t3N1RpUFZjV GQzZHZwTnU0bHpuUT09

# **Meeting Minutes**

January 2025

The January SEMDXA meeting was chaired by our president Fred, KD8ZYD. The meeting started at 7:00 PM. There were 11 in attendance and seven zoomed.

Acceptance of November 2024 meeting minutes as published in the January issue of The Long Path was motioned by Al, K8SIX and 2nd by Fred, KD8ZYD and accepted by all present.

Treasurers report was presented by Brad, N8SNM. Doug, N8VY motioned to accept and 2nd by Fred, KD8ZYD. Accepted by all.

#### **OLD Business**

Shirts are available with your name, call sign and Club logo. Many types of shirts and colors are available. Contact Fred, KD8ZYD our president for details.

#### DUES ARE DUE.

#### **NEW Business**

No new business was presented.

Guest Speaker for the evening was Chet, VE3CFK. Chet talked about rebuilding his Collins 30S-1 which was purchased from Bob Crawford, K8VFV's estate.

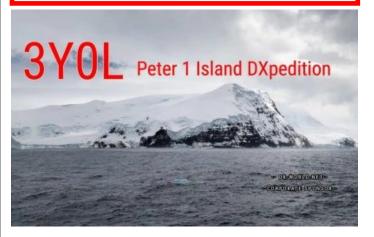
Meeting ended at 8:30 PM.

## K8PGJ on the GO

Pete, K8PGJ will be AH7/K8PGJ for a few weeks in February and PJ2/K8PGJ from February 25th to March 4th at PJ2T including the ARRL DX SSB Contest.

Pete presently sitting in 7th for the NA NAQP SSB contest!

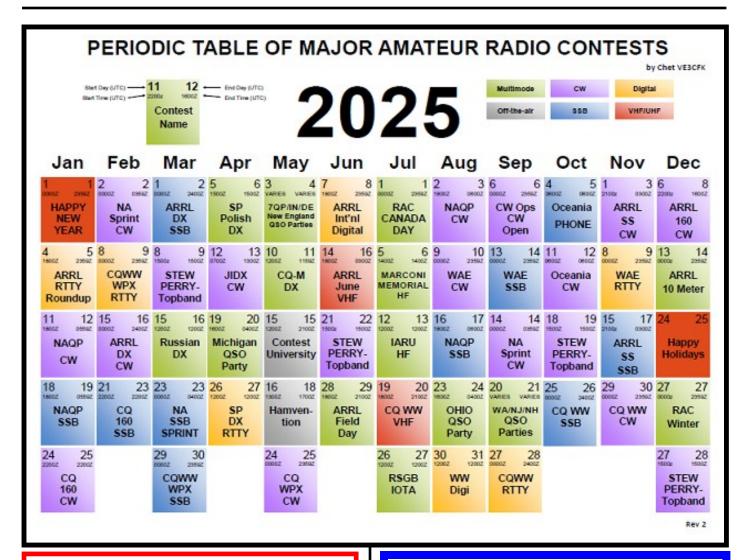
## 3Y0L - Peter 1 Is.



Peter I DXpedition team is proud to announce today the signing of a vessel contract with ICETUGS that will take us to Peter I Island in February 2027 where we intend to stay 3 weeks around the island. ICETUGS, an Iceland based company, has an excellent track record in providing services for expeditions, cargo and fuel supplies, tugging, as well as rescue and camp setup in the Arctic and Antarctic regions. ICETUGS is the same company that will take Team Bouvet to their destination in 2026.

The team will continue working on securing a helicopter contract that will accommodate two helicopters to make this a safe and reliable operation as required by the Norwegian Polar Institute (NPI). We are also scheduled to sign a contract with a leading Antarctic Expedition company, Spirit of Sydney, by this summer. This Expedition company has successfully organized 80+ expeditions to the Antarctic and will be leading the Peter I Expedition from a permit, safety, emergency and evacuation point of view. Worth noting, Spirit of Sydney has organized several other expeditions in the Antarctic region in collaboration with ICETUGS, which means that both the Expedition company and the Vessel will have had several years of experience working together before we go together to Peter I Island in 2027.

You can follow our plans at <a href="www.3y01.com">www.3y01.com</a> or through our trusted media news The Daily DX, EA1CS DX info and DX-World. You can contact us at admin@3y0.no or through our media officer James KB2FMH.



# HK0A - San Andres



Look for Ray, K3ARC to be active from San Andres Island as HK0A during March 9-19, 2025. QRV on 20-10m; SSB & CW (QRS).

# **Future SEMDXA Meeting Guest Speakers/Presentations**

- February Mike Martin of RFI Services Prt II
- March TBA
- April Submarine Communicatons

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

## VU4 - Andaman Is



There are currently major changes ongoing at the licensing department in India. Although WPC previously confirmed that the callsign for this DXpedition would be VU4X, it has now been officially changed to VU4AX. A new press release will follow later this week.

Pilot stations have been chosen. They are DX-World's very own Weekly Bulletin writer, Bjorn ON9CFG (EU), together with Pete W2IRT (NA) and Champ E21EIC (AS).

Behind the scenes, the DX-Adventure team is working at full speed to prepare everything as good as possible for the upcoming VU4X DXpedition in March 2025. We have already started packing all the radio equipment that needs to go with us. The 37 suitcases we currently have booked will probably be not enough to get everything with us. In the coming weeks it will really become clear how many more suitcases are needed. The expense of all the luggage is very high. One 23kg suitcase costs more than \$600. Then we are not talking about oversize suitcases in which we carry all the antennas and towers. The last weeks we received voluntary donations from radio amateurs from Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Austria, Denmark, Japan and USA. We appreciate your support and are extremely grateful for your contributions.

## **Hamfests**

Feb 8, 2025 - Cherryland ARC Ham Swap, Traverse City, MI

Feb 14, 2025 - CMARC Meeting, Lansing MI

Feb 22, 2025 - Livonia ARC Annual Swap & Shop, Northville, MI

Mar 23, 2025 - Lowell AR Youth Club Hamfest, Lowell, MI CANCELLED

Apr 12, 2025 - AC8RC Allegan Mini-Swap, Burnips, MI

Apr 19, 2025 - JCARC Hamfest, Centreville, MI

May 5, 2025 - Wexaukee ARC Hamfest, Cadillac, MI

May 16-18, 2025 - Dayton HamventionR, Xenia, OH

# SV1GA/A - Mt Athos



Fascinating DXpedition. On the air for 3 days. Then nothing. A few days later all returned home.

Looking forward to having Adrian give us a talk about what transpired. It'll be interesting to say the least.

## 3Y0X - Bouvet Is.



In one year – 1st February 2026 – we depart from Cape Town to Bouvet Island. Follow our adventure on 3y0k.com with Icetugs and Ultimate Aviation. Preparations are at full speed ahead!

Today (January 20th) we have paid our first deposits for the helicopter and vessel contracts in total around \$450,000. Paying the deposit as part of the contract signing shows a major commitment from the team, and we will now start the detailed planning.

During the course of the next few weeks we will study and determine the station and antenna setup to be used at Bouvet. With our previous experience from the island and the local conditions we will make sure to adapt the setup and QTH to maximize the team effort. We will also look for synergies with the upcoming Peter I expedition as the intention is that the equipment we select for Bouvet to the extent possible also will be used at Peter I. Looking at synergies between the two expeditions will make it more efficient for both teams.

We are pleased to announce the completion of a major milestone by having signed a contract (on Feb 1st) with ICETUGS that will take us to Bouvet Island in February 2026. ICETUGS, an Iceland based company, has an excellent track record in providing services for expeditions, cargo and fuel supplies, tugging, as well as rescue and camp setup in the Arctic and Antarctic regions. We also report the signing of the helicopter contract with the Cape Town based Ultimate Aviation. This group will supply us with a helicopter, two pilots and a mechanic for this project.

### **CLUBLOG**

### Most wanted - Top 25

- 1. **P5** DPRK (NORTH KOREA)
- 2. BS7H SCARBOROUGH REEF
- 3. CEOX 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 ISLANDS
- 13. KH4 MIDWAY ISLAND
- 14. VK0M MACQUARIE ISLAND
- 15. PYOS SAINT PETER AND PAUL ROCKS
- 16. **KP5** DESECHEO ISLAND
- 17. VP0S SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS
- 18. KH5 PALMYRA & JARVIS ISLANDS
- 19. **ZL9** NEW ZEALAND SUBANTARCTIC IS-LANDS
- 20. FK/C CHESTERFIELD ISLANDS
- 21. VK0H HEARD ISLAND
- 22. FT/T TROMELIN ISLAND
- 23. EZ TURKMENISTAN
- 24. YK SYRIA
- 25. ZL8 KERMADEC ISLAND

## V73 - Marshall Is.

We are thrilled to announce that our upcoming DXpedition to the Marshall Islands has been assigned the callsign V73WW. Our team will begin operations on 12th February 2025 for approximately 12 days, though times may vary based on local conditions. Stay tuned to Facebook and X for the latest updates and frequency information.

# Hamvention Transportation

The ARROW Communications Association and the Toledo Mobile Radio Association (TMRA) are proud to sponsor a motor coach trip to the Hamvention 2025 in Dayton, Ohio. This one-day trip leaves early in the morning on May 17, 2025 and returns the same day after Hamvention closes for the day at 5:00 p.m. The bus has two pickup spots, in Ann Arbor and in Toledo (Rossford). Please join us!

Tickets are \$70 per person. Please note that this does not include the Hamvention ticket, which you need to purchase separately.

To Register and see full Details visit: https://w8rp.org/daytonbus2025/

There are two pickup/drop off locations on May 17th, 2025

**Ann Arbor** – 601 W Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI – Departing 4:30 am

**Toledo** – 727 Lime City Rd. Rossford, OH – Departing 5:30 am

On board, you can stretch out, relax, take a nap, chat with other hams, and enjoy a light breakfast with coffee as the coach takes you directly to the country's largest amateur radio event!

**Thanks** 

# VK9 - Cocos Keeling

Larry, W5EIT will be active from West Island, Cocos-Keeling Islands as VK9/W5EIT during February 11-18, 2025. Although a holiday-style activity, he plans to be QRV on CW and FT8 and may try RTTY or SSB if conditions permit.

# DX IS!

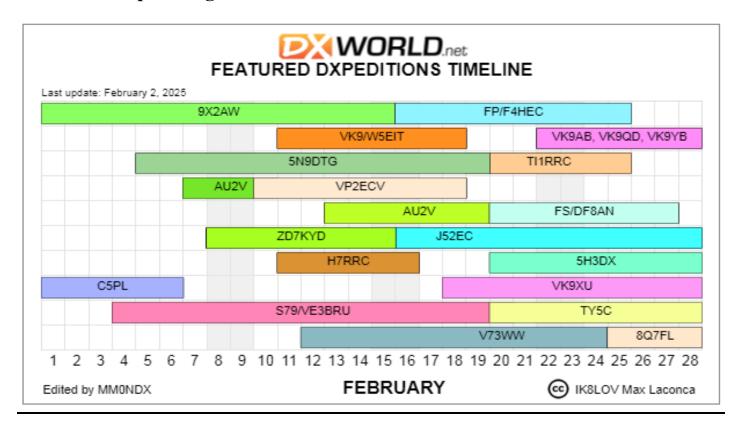
One of the local QRPers was up the hill last week, he already having worked Clipperton on ten, fifteen and twenty. "What's the story on Iraq?" he asked and we show him the latest dispatches from the front. "Looks good," the QRPer said, "but what is coming after that? South Sandwich maybe? Or China or Burma? Or what?" We had to admit that there was no late or encouraging information on any of these and the disapproval was evident. "Look," the ORPer said, "what's all this talk about 'the Great Days of DXing'. After I work Iraq what will I have to look forward to? Where is all this DX that is supposed to be around?" Son of a Gun! What does one say to something like this...and just after a twenty year wait for Clipperton has ended. "What did you do before Clipperton came on?", we asked and got the usual informative grunt. "Why, I just sat there over the three hundred mark and twiddled my thumbs," the ORPer said, "What else could I do but twiddle?" We knew then that we were up against one of the Eternal Enigmas and the fact that no DXer ever admits to having enough. "Just keep on twiddling," was our advice for all DXers must worry about the morrow and what DX it will bring. Come! Let us twiddle and worry together. For, as the word is now heard on two meters..."Clipperton? Who needs it?"

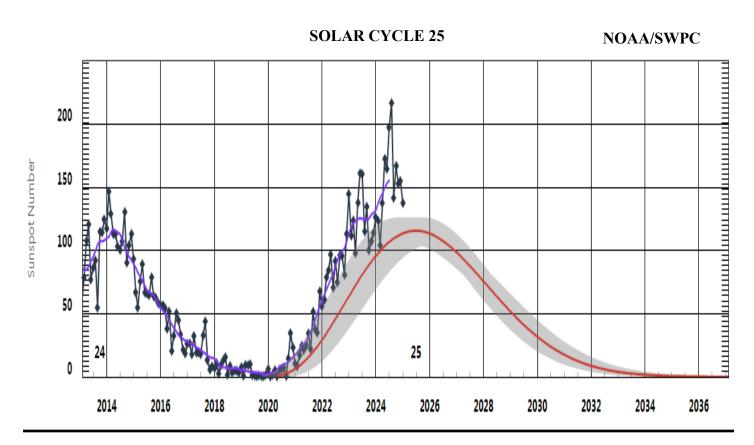
### H44MS - Soloman Is.

Bernard, DL2GAC will again be active from Manakwai village, nearby Malu'u (northern Malaita Island) as H44MS starting February 15, 2025 lasting through until the end of April. Expected to QRV daily on 80-6m; SSB & FT8.

Bernard mentions that he'll arrive Honiara, Solomon Islands on Feb 9th and will go for last minute shopping, renew his license, then get a ferry to Auki Malaite before travelling another 6 hours by truck over a dirt road to northern side of Malaite Island.

#### Credit to DX World





# Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

Start	<u>End</u>	DXCC	<u>Call</u>	QSL	Reported
Date	<u>Date</u>	<u>Entity</u>		via	by
2025					
2025	2025	Guyana	8R1TM	LoTW	<u>425DXN</u>
Jan01	Feb08	- Juliu	[spots]		20241220
2025 Jan23	2025 Feb28	Turks & Caicos	VP5 [spots]	LoTW	TDDX 20250127
2025 Jan26	2025 Feb05	St Kitts & Ne- vis	V47JA [spots]	LoTW	W5JON 20240124
2025 Jan26	2025 Mar01	Guinea Bissau	J52EC	IZ3BUR Direct	TDDX 20250103
2025	2025		[spots] 9X2AW	Direct	DXW.Net
Jan27	Feb15	Rwanda	[spots]	LoTW	20241223
2025 Jan30	2025 Feb08	Nigeria	5N9DTG	LoTW	TDDX 20250116
	uary		[spots]		20230110
2025	2025		9G5IK		DXW.Net
Feb01	Feb06	Senegal	[spots]	LoTW	20250103
2025 Feb01	2025 Feb09	Br Virgin Is	VP2V [spots]	LoTW	TDDX 20250203
2025 Feb02	2025 Feb28	Senegal	6W7 [spots]	Club Log OQRS	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20230914
2025	2025		VP2ECV	KG9N	OPDX
Feb04	Feb18	Anguilla	[spots]	(B/d)	20250103
2025 Feb04	2025 Feb20	Seychelles	<b>S79</b> [spots]	LoTW	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20250125
2025	2025	Cana Varda la	D440A	LoT\//	<u>OPDX</u>
Feb05	Feb18	Cape Verde Is	[spots]	LoTW	20241216
2025 Feb06	2025 Feb14	Togo	5V0DX	LoTW	DXW.Net 20250103
2025 Feb07	2025 Feb10	India	<u>AU2V</u>	LoTW	OPDX 20250202
2025	2025				Z0250202 TDDX
Feb07	2025 Mar11	Aruba	P4	LoTW	20250123
2025	2025	St Helena	ZD7KYD	LoTW	<u>OPDX</u>
Feb08	Feb15	2011919119			20240925

**Editors NOTE:** 

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

# Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2025	2025	Cayman Is	ZF2EZ	LoTW	<u>OPDX</u>	
Feb11	Feb16	Cayman Is	27252	LOTVV	20250205	
2025 Feb11	2025 Feb18	Cocos Keeling	<u>VK9</u>	LoTW	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20241227	
2025 Feb11	2025 Feb23	Marshall Is	<u>V73WW</u>	LoTW	TDDX 20240923	
2025 Feb12	2025 Feb16	Bahamas	<u>C6ADA</u>	LoTW	425DXN 20241030	
2025 Feb12	2025 Mar04	Mali	TZ1CE	LoTW	OPDX 20250113	
ARRL Inter	rnational D	X Contest, CW (Feb	<u>15-16, 2025</u>	S) Check he	re for pericon-	
2025 Feb16	2025 Mar04	Sint Martin	PJ7	LoTW	DXW.Net 20241227	
2025 Feb16	2025 Feb25	St Pierre & Miquelon	FP	LoTW	<u>DXW.Net</u>	
0005	2005				20241230	
2025 Feb16	2025 Mar04	St Martin	FS	LoTW	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20241227	
2025 Feb18	2025 Mar04	Christmas I	VK9XU	LoTW	DL2AWG 20240911	
2025 Feb19	2025 Feb27	St Martin	FS	DF8AN	TDDX 20241031	
2025 Feb20	2025 Mar06	Tanzania	<u>5H3DX</u>	LoTW	TDDX 20250127	
2025 Feb26	2025 Mar06	Maldives	8Q7FL	LoTW	DXW.Net 20250113	
March						
2025 Mar01	2025 Mar01	Antigua & Bar- buda	V26MN	DF8AN	TDDX	
					20241031	
ARRL International DX Contest, SSB (Mar 1-2, 2025) Check here for pericon-						
2025 Mar01	2025 Mar09	Montserrat	VP2MMN	DF8AN	TDDX 20241031	
2025 Mar03	2025 Apr01	Turks & Caicos	VP5	LoTW	OPDX 20250123	
2025 Mar04	2025 Mar12	Cocos Keeling	<u>VK9CU</u>	LoTW	DL2AWG 20240911	

# Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

2025 Mar09	2025 Mar10	Antigua & Bar- buda	V26MN	DF8AN	<u>TDDX</u>
					20241031
2025 Mar09	2025 Mar19	San Andres & Providencia	HK0A	LoTW	<u>DXW.Net</u>
					20250204
2025 Mar09	2025 Apr05	Sint Maarten	PJ7AA	LoTW	TDDX 20240725
2025 Mar10	2025 Mar11	St Martin	FS	DF8AN	TDDX 20241031
2025 Mar10	2025 Mar25	Andaman Is	<u>VU4AX</u>	M0URX	DXW.Net 20240723
2025 Mar12	2025 Mar24	Jamaica	6Y7EI	моохо	TDDX 20241206
2025 Mar17	2025 Mar31	Grenada	J38XB	VE2XB Direct	DXW.Net 20250103
2025 Mar18	2025 Apr01	Micronesia	V6WG	LoTW	TDDX 20241216
2025 Mar24	2025 Apr05	Rodrigues I	3B9DJ	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240919
2025 Mar24	2025 Mar31	Cyprus SBA	ZC4MK	G0KOM	DXW.Net 20241221
2025 Mar30	2025 Apr06	Honduras	HR9	LoTW	OPDX 20250130
Ар	ril				
2025 Apr03	2025 Apr10	Maldives	8Q7EF	LoTW	OPDX 20250111
2025 Apr09		French Polyne-	rench Polyne- sia	LoTW	TDDX
		Sia			20240923
2025 Apr17	2025 Apr27	Bonaire	PJ4CB	LoTW	OPDX 20241129
2025 Apr18	2025 Apr26	Galapagos	HD8G	LoTW	<u>DXW.Net</u> 20240609
2025 Apr19	2025 May02	Gambia	C5	LoTW	DXW.Net 20241227
2025 Apr25	2025 May07	Austral Is	TX9A	DK8ZZ	DXW.Net 20240927

# Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

June					
2025 Jun01	2025 Jun10	Faroe Is	<u>OY</u>	LoTW	DXW.Net 20240619
2025 Jun04	2025 Jun18	St Martin	FS	LoTW	TDDX 20250125
2025 Jun11	2025 Jun27	French Polyne- sia	FO	LoTW	DXW.Net
					20241210
2025 Jun28	ED ED	<u>FP</u>	LoTW	TDDX	
		•			20241219
July					
2025 Jul11	2025 Jul25	Iceland	TF	VE2XB	TDDX 20250203
Septe	mber				
2025 Sep12	2025 Sep22	Svalbard	JW6VDA	LoTW	OPDX 20241219
October					
2025 Oct08	2025 Oct13	Svalbard	JM	Home Call	OPDX 20250203
2025 Oct20	2025 Nov07	Wallis & Fu- tuna	FW5K	LoTW	NC7M 20250101

SEMDXA Web Site: www.semdxa.org