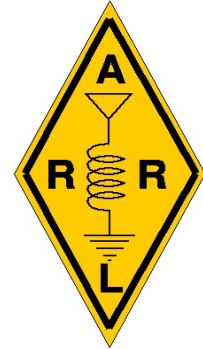


October-November-December 2018

"Ohio's First DXCC Field Checking Club"



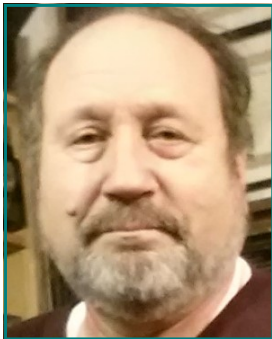
The NODXA RAG



Fireside Chat With KB8NW

Fellow DXers,

Well, a new year has started and 2018 has come and gone. DXing in 2018 was not too bad, but the propagation was very poor at most. With the poor propagation, DXers found themselves turning to a new mode of operation called FT8 to fill the void. It has become so popular, the DX Advisory Committee (DXAC) is "possibly thinking" about changing that the DXCC rules and digital awards. Some DXers are even debating whether this mode can be considered as real DXing. Personally, I am neutral on the topic because I have not tried it yet, but it does sound interesting.



Let me get back to talking about DXing in 2018. Probably the most disappointing thing that happened in 2018 was the aborted 3Y0Z Bouvet Island DXpedition due to engine failure on their boat. Many were looking forward to work this operation, especially on the WARC-79 bands. Right now, many are hoping that the Polish 3Y0I operation will take place sometime in 2019, either January or February.

ruary.

The best thing that probably happened in 2018 was the final acceptance of the Republic of Kosovo (Z6) to the DXCC entities list on January 21, 2018.

There were still many other DXpeditions to work in 2018, some small and some large operations. The best notable ones are the VP6D Ducie Island and the KH1/KH7Z Baker Island operations. Other mentionables are: 3B7A, 3C0W, 3C3W, 4B4B, 6O6O, A5A, C5DX, D68I, E31A, TJ2TT, TN5R, TX5T, TY1TT, VK9XG, VK9XT, VU4G, XRO9D, XX9B, Z2LA, ZC4A... just to name a few.

NODXA donated funds to 12 DXpeditions in 2018 which include: 6O6O Somalia, 3Y0Z Bouvet Island, KH1/KH7Z Baker Island, 3B7A St. Brandon Island, 3D2EU Rotuma Island, C96RRC/C98RRC Mozambique, VP6D Ducie Island, 3C0W/3C3W Annobon Island & Equatorial Guinea, TT8KO Chad, Z23MD Zimbabwe and TO6OK Mayotte.

Propagation for 2019 is expected to be about the same or possibly worse.

The Solar Cycle 24 will continue to be weaker for a few years yet, but it is on the down side. Solar activity and weak signals will last possibly through 2021.

As always, I hope to see you in the coming weeks/months, possibly at a hamfest, or NODXA's general membership meetings every first Monday of the month (unless it is a holiday -- it will be the second Monday).

As a reminder, if you have a topic to discuss about DXing or contesting, bring it up at the meeting. Also, if you would like to

"The Mission of the Northern Ohio DX Association is to promote and support Amateur Radio and the DX Community around the world."

put on a program of some interest for the club in the coming months, let us know so we can schedule you in for a meeting. We are always looking for a program.

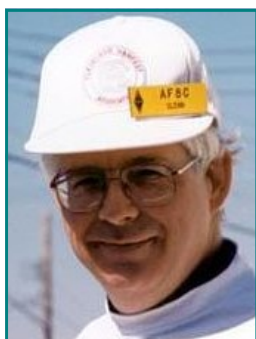
73 and Good DX, de Tedd KB8NW

Minutes of the September 10th, 2018 NODXA Meeting

President Tedd, KB8NW, opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m., with 19 members and guests present. After a round of introductions, reciting the Pledge of Allegiance was the next order of business. The secretary read the minutes for the meeting for August 6, 2018. Then Bruce, N8DJX, moved and Gary, NI8Z, seconded a motion for the minutes to be approved, and the motion passed on the vote. Next, Treasurer Mary, N8DMM, reported the treasury balance was \$Ka-Ching! Then Gary, NI8Z, moved and Bruce, N8DJX, seconded a motion for the treasurer's report to be approved, and it was approved by the vote. Dues are due. Per Denny, WB8K, the repeater is working fine. Dave, WD8IOU is working on the next newsletter. He always could use more articles or photos for the newsletter.

Old/New Business:

Tedd discussed the online petition supporting the continuation of the federal budget support for WWV and WWVH radio services to stay on the air. People are invited to electronically post their support of the petition. A bit of discussion on the value of those transmissions followed. George, K8KR, reported on seeing the WWV antennas in Fort Collins, CO.



Discussion opened up on the September 23 Cleveland Hamfest. NODXA and members Pete, N8TR, and Bruce, N8DJX, would like two tables. Gary, NI8Z, said CARS also needs two tables. Tedd discussed that the Findlay Hamfest had practically no flea market due to rain. Tedd reported that the CW WW SSB post-contest luncheon will occur on November 1 at the Strongsville Buffalo Wild Wings. Tedd will send out email requesting names of those who will attend that

function.

Tedd reported that we still have some requests for DXpedition funding donations. First is for Z23MD, Zimbabwe, running from October 25 to November 5 (ClubLog 133). Bruce, N8DJX, moved and John, K8YSE, seconded that we donate \$100 to that event. The motion passed on the vote. A Mayotte expedition, TO6OK, is going September 21 through October 5, (ClubLog 95). Another motion for \$100 for Mayotte was made by Bruce and John, and it passed on the vote. During October 9 through the October 21 will be TT8KO, Chad, (ClubLog 79) and Bruce and John moved \$100 for that one, and it passed on the vote. The 2018 Route 66 Special Event is now on the air with 1x1 call signs, except for an outage by ""J" in Oklahoma. WA2NYC, a special call for the 9/11 Memorial, is on during September 9-11. Metro, W8MET, reported that K4MIA/8 will be supported during September 14 through 21 by him and Linda, N8LRS.

Per Brian, K3USC, NODXA has 608 friends on FaceBook. Pictures and comments are posted there. Tedd reported that the NODXA club call NO8DX needs to be renewed per a letter from the ARRL. Tedd passed around a printed list of DXpeditions from NG3K's Web site. Don't forget Christmas Island, VK9XT, and Ducie, VP6D.

Wrap-up:

Ron, K8VJG, moved and Bruce, N8DJX, seconded that the meeting be closed, and the motion was passed on the vote. The next meeting will occur on October 1, 2018. The 50/50 raffle collection of \$32 was split with the winner Bruce, N8DJX, who returned his half to the club. The meeting

closed at 8:30 p.m.

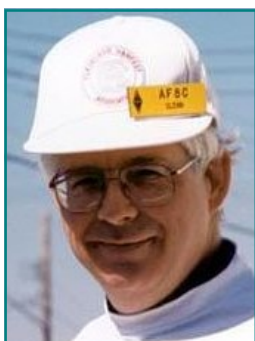
Respectfully, Glenn, AF8C, Secretary

Minutes of the October 1st, 2018 NODXA Meeting

Vice President Dennis, K8LBT, opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m., with 16 members and guests present. After a round of introductions, reciting the Pledge of Allegiance was the next order of business. The secretary read the minutes for the meeting for September 10, 2018. Then Bruce, N8DJX, moved and Brian, K3USC, seconded a motion for the minutes to be approved, and the motion passed on the vote. Next, Treasurer Mary, N8DMM, reported the treasury balance was \$Ka-Ching! Then Bruce, N8DJX, moved and Brian, K3USC, seconded a motion for the treasurer's report to be approved, and it was approved by the vote. Dues are due. The club's net from sales of items at the Cleveland Hamfest was \$171.00. We receive a membership renewal from Al, N8CX. Also, Mark Huber, NO8J, joined our membership with his application and dues.

Old/New Business:

Members complemented the recent Cleveland Hamfest. DXCC card checking occurred at the NODXA table, with about 6 applications processed by Goose, W8AV. Cards for John, K8YSE, and Pete, N8TR were in those sets. Don, K8MFO, took photos of the group at the NODXA table. The weather was very good that day. Traffic at the NODXA table was good, with the club earnings as reported above. Visitors enjoyed taking advantage of the dollar boxes. But, after the Hamfest our amplifier is still available for sale along with some other items.



Tedd, KB8NW, passed the information to Dennis that all three Dxpedition donations that were approved at the September meeting were sent to the intended recipients. Chad and Zimbabwe have acknowledged our contributions. Mayotte was still active at the time. The NODXA contest luncheon will occur on November 1 at the Strongsville Buffalo Wild Wings. Please answer Tedd's email about the luncheon when he sends it out. If there are more than 25 people at the luncheon the restaurant will set up a buffet line.

Discussion on the Ducie DXpedition, call sign VP6D, included commentary on the newsletter received. VP6D will use the Bob Snyder immediate log confirmation app DXA. Bruce, N8DJX, says that TO6 has already used that app. We have one new donation request, this for XX9D, Macao, rated number 92. They will be on 6 through 160 with 15 operators, 4 stations, running 24/7. They promise to concentrate on North America. The operating dates are February 11 through February 26 near the bottom of the sunspot cycle. The club members voted to table this funding request after the motion by Bruce, seconded by Brian.

Wrap-up:

Brian, K3USC, moved and Bruce, N8DJX, seconded that the meeting be closed, and the motion was passed on the vote. The next meeting will occur on November 5, 2018. Tonight's 50/50 raffle collection of \$34 was split with the winner Bruce, N8DJX, who returned his half to the club. The meeting closed at 7:50 p.m.

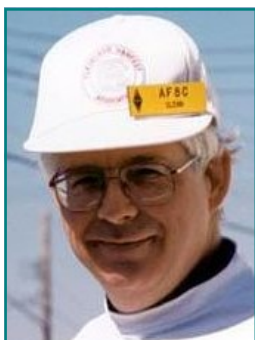
Respectfully, Glenn, AF8C, Secretary

Minutes of the November 5th, 2018 NODXA Meeting

President Tedd, KB8NW, opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m., with 15 members and guests present. After a round of introductions and the Pledge of Allegiance, the secretary read the minutes for the meeting for October 1, 2018. Next, Treasurer Mary, N8DMM, reported the treasury balance was \$Ka-Ching! Then George, K8KR, moved and Gary, NI8Z, seconded a motion for the treasurer's report to be approved, and it was approved by the vote. Dues are due. The repeater was reported as OK. Editor Dave, WD8IOU, reported that the newsletter went out, containing information and photos on our Field Day activity. Dave thanked all the folks who helped with the 2018 Field Day activity. Field Day results in QST are not out yet.

Old/New Business:

No club members worked the short TT8KO, Chad, DXpedition. That expedition made about 2400 QSOs before being shut down. Six club members reported working Z23MD. The recent DX luncheon had 32 people in attendance. Discussion of details of the service there took several minutes. We may be looking for a new venue.



Don, K8MFO, announced that the CQ WW CW luncheon will occur in Dalton in late November. Tedd said that the club license was renewed. Tedd discussed the recent email memo from the DXAC regarding taking a survey on whether FT8 and other new digital modes should be separated into their own DXCC "mode". Glenn, AF8C, pointed out that the new JS8CALL app fills in an FT8-style QSO need. Tedd said that the "Hamvention" in Dayton/Xenia will lose the city name. In 2019 the ARRL National Convention will occur at the Hamvention.

We had a tabled funding request from last month. Two new requests came in. A35EU, Tonga, Tongatapu Island, IOTA OC - 049, rated number 105, will operate November 16 to 27. Central Kiribati, Kanton Island, IOTA OC - 043, rated number 27, will operate T31EU during February 16 through March 5. They will operate 160m through 10m. Gary, NI8Z, moved and Dave, KZ8Y, seconded to send \$100.00 to T31EU. The motion passed on the vote. George, K8KR, moved and John, K8YSE, seconded a motion to send \$100.00 to XX9D, Macao, rated number 93, operating from February 11 to February 26. This motion passed. Ohio QSO party plaques for 2018 have not been announced yet. Dave, KZ8Y, noted that OH2BH, Martti, is not registered in Logbook of the World.

Wrap-up:

Dennis, K8LBT, moved and Brian, K3USC, seconded that the meeting be closed, and the motion was passed on the vote. The next meeting will occur on December 3, 2018. The meeting closed at 8:27 p.m. Tedd said that our Show and Tell program will happen in February, 2019.

Respectfully, Glenn, AF8C, Secretary



Republic of Equatorial Guinea - Annobon and Bioko. Feb 28 - Mar 24, 2018

By Yuris,



Hello dear radio friends! After successful first recce expedition to 3C in the late 2017, it was time for our next much larger expedition.

This time the team initially consisted of eight operators - 3 from Latvia and 5 from Ukraine. As we were getting ready to set for this journey - we timely booked all our flights and hotels, submitted all applications for visas, and did all other necessary work for the expeditions preparation phase. Without much struggle we Latvians acquired the visas, however, Ukrainian team members had some problems and the grant of visas got delayed and delayed by the responsible embassy till that point where it could not wait any longer and unfortunately we could not go with the full team. After this setback, we continued with smaller team than planned. It was only three operators - Yuris YL2GM, Kaspars YL1ZF and Girts YL2KL.

Team

Operators: YL2GM, YL1ZF, YL2KL
 Coordinator: Kaspars Pētersons
 QSL manager: YL2GN
 Graphic designer: YL2KA
 Webmaster: YL2VW
 Technical advisors: YL3DW

Equipment

Transceivers: 3x Elecraft K3

Power amplifiers: *2x SPE Expert 1.3K-FA

*Juma PA1000

Antennas:

*160/80/60/40/30m bands - 18m high vertical with capacity hat RA6LBS

*20-10m bands - Folding antenna

*20-10m bands - Spiderbeam

*40/30m bands - 3 phased vertical

*Beverages for receiving

Generator: Honda EU20i



Team: Kaspars YL1ZF, Yuris YL2GM, Girts YL2KL

Day 1 - Monday, 26th of February

At 6 AM we arrived to Riga airport. We were asked by airport personnel to re-pack one of our generators, as the airport security did not let it through due to smell of gasoline. Even though, I did leave it working until all the gas was used up and the generator stopped, there still was some drops left be-

hind, enough to create the smell. After re-packing, we continued with the check-in procedures with our entire luggage.

The flight from Riga to Paris went by very quickly and connection in Paris was only 1 hour and 40 minutes. We had to change terminals, everything went smooth and we were on board of our next flight with A330 to Malabo. The total travel time was around 8 hours with an in-between stop in Cameroon for refueling and disembarking some passengers as they reached their destination. Onwards to Malabo the flight was only 45 minutes and we were only about 20 passengers left on the very big airliner.



On the way to Malabo: Kaspars YL1ZF, Girts YL2KL, Yuris

We arrived in Malabo airport around 7 PM local time. We passed Passport and security control without any questions, however, while waiting by the baggage belt, we found out that that one of our suitcases and one of the generators was missing. We filled out all necessary paper work at lost and found and we assured that our things should arrive with tomorrow's flight. Customs representatives were very kind and it was enough to let us through just by showing our papers.

Day 2 - Tuesday, 27th of February

In the morning, I went to the Ministry of Telecommunications and new technologies to acquire the licenses. I already knew where to go and whom to approach. Director kindly met with me and promised to arrange the permits as soon as possible. He also told me what more paper work I have to prepare as the regulations have changed since the last time I was here. We agreed on meeting next morning 11AM in his office.

Our local friend Jesus helped us with the enquiry about our next flights to Annobon and he booked the tickets for us. Travel Company promised that the flight would be on next Tuesday, on March 6. This looked great but as we know from our experience - these flights tend to change frequently so we can only be sure when we will be on the plane.

In the evening, we went back to the airport to find out about our missing luggage. Suitcase was there, but the generator was not. We turned to Air France office for some more information, but they said we should ask this to Riga Airport. In the end, it turned out that the generator was not loaded in Riga due to a smell of gasoline, so we remained with just one generator.

Day 3 - Wednesday, 28th of February

Next day we found out that the Minister has changed, with him also the regulation for applying for the licenses have changed. Locals kindly help us to solve these questions and we receive the license without much problems.

In the afternoon, when we returned to our hotel in Trocadero, we set up two verticals and started to operate. First QSO was on 30 meters with S52GP.

Day 4 - Thursday, 1st of March

From the very morning we start to set up all other antennas - Spiderbeam, Folding antenna, 18m vertical for 160/80/40/30m with RA6LBS capacity hat and 2 phased verticals for 40m.

Days 4-11

We actively work on air with two stations. Every second day I go to Malabo internet café to upload QSOs in Clublog. On the 7th of March, while on the way to upload next logs, I was waiting for a bus and taking some pictures of the local market, when suddenly my "adventures" begun.

Police officer approached me and asked for my permission to take pictures, which of course I hadn't. How it turns out - tourists are not allowed to take photos unless they have bought special permission for this. Who could imagine that tourists have to buy such a permission to take pictures in the city? Anyways, the police officer took me to the station where I had to wait for several hours while the police chief arrived. They took my phone and started to check every picture I had taken and asked me numerous trivial questions. When they finally allowed me to make a phone call to my contact in the Ministry, then with brief discussions everything got sorted out. They set a payment for tourist permission to take pictures and I could go. I asked the police chief if I can take pictures in tomorrow's manifestation in honor of women's day; he said - ok, but only if I go together with him.

After this incident I did not want to go to Malabo again, I'd better stayed in Trocadero and worked on the air.

Next day we were visited by delegation of six people. We demonstrated them how we work and told about amateur radio. They are favorable to us and did not have any claims against our work.

Day 12 - Friday, 9th of March

In the morning, we make our last QSO with EA3QP on 40m CW with this finishing our work from Trocadero hotel. In total we made 30 323 QSOs.

After breakfast, we take down all remaining antennas and hardware and move to a hotel in Malabo.

Day 13 - Saturday, 10th of March

In the airport we have to wait for our flight to Anobon because it's delayed due to bad weather conditions. In addition, we get invited to the office of airport chief to explain who we are and what are we carrying. It takes around one hour and without a call to my



Receiving the license in Ministry



Team breakfast in Trocadero hotel

friend in Ministry, again we could not proceed.

Around 4PM we land in Annobon airport. We rent the same house that we rented during our previous expedition. In the evening, we set up Folding antenna and vertical and during the night we make first 1500 QSOs.

Day 14 - Sunday, 11th of March

We check the surroundings and realize that in the previously planned place for RA6LBS vertical antenna has grown 1 meter long grass, so we hired local farmers who cut the grass and we could proceed.

Day 15 - Monday, 12th of March

Today we visited the Governor of the island. We have already met once before during our previous expedition. He kindly welcomes and invites us to visit the island again in future.

Later we set up RA6LBS vertical and Spiderbeam. We also set up our second position that is approximately 40m away in another house.

Local electricity is turned off twice a day, from 6AM - 10AM and 4PM - 7PM and the grid voltage is ~160V. SPE Expert PA works perfectly in these power conditions, however it is not the same with Juma PA1000. During the day as power source we use our Honda 20i generator. This is the only 2kW generator that ensures our requirements and weights only 23kg. This generator ensures the power for one station and for the second position to work we have to reduce the PA power. In the evening, our neighbor drops by and says that we use all the electricity and because of that his fridge cannot function normally and all his fish is going bad. We have to find a compromise so we give him grid autotransformer that ensures 220V.

Day 19 - Friday, 16th of March

Beverage antenna gave good results and we made 150 JA QSOs on 80m.

Day 20 - Saturday, 17th of March

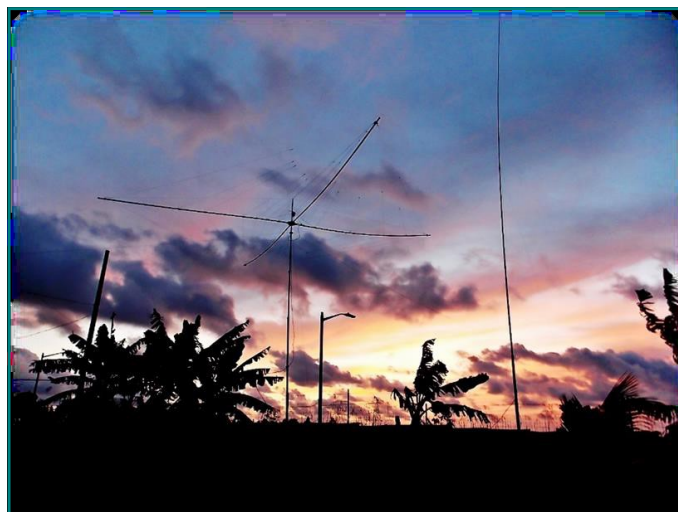
During the day we tuned the 3,5 SSB sub band RA6LBS vertical on 60m and during night we made 230 QSOs on 60m.

Kaspars was taking part in RDXC with 3COW. That was a surprise for many operators when they heard our call and in total we made 900 QSOs in this contest.

We could not get access to internet, so we could upload the logs only after the expedition.



On the plane to Annobon



Kaspars YL1ZF

Day 23 - Tuesday, 20th of March

During the last 24 hours we have set our expedition record - 5748 QSOs. During the night, we worked also on SSB 80m and 160m.

Day 26 - Friday, 23rd of March

Tomorrow is Saturday and our flight back to Malabo, so for today we have planned "Hams with hearts" activities. In total, with the donations left over from previous 3COL/3C1L expedition and the donations made by amateurs during this expedition, we together have raised 1422 EUR.

Our local friend Eduardo arrived from Malabo with the first package - school bags, exercise books, pencils and other school things. We also managed to buy some more presents in the local shop on the island, even though, it is the only shop on the island and the supplies there are very limited. We still had 980 EUR so we decided for the remaining money to buy stationary goods when we will be in Malabo and ship them to island with the help of our friends.

At 1PM we met with the children and teachers in the local school. Children's songs and smiling faces was gratitude for our support. Common photos on the memory of the meeting.

After that, we had a small excursion on the island and some more common photos on the memory of our wonderful journey.

Day 27 - Saturday, 24th of March

In the morning, we make our last QSO on 40m. In total from Annobon during this expedition we have made 54 267 QSOs. We take down all remaining antennas and equipment.

At 2 PM our friends drive us to the airport. During security check we are forbidden to take the generator with us on the plane, so we have to leave it with our friend Eduardo for our next expeditions.

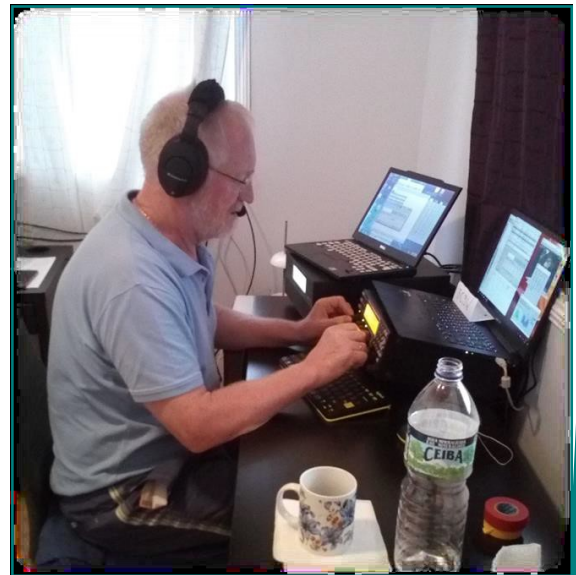
Days 28-30

In Malabo, together with Alida and her sister, we visit shops to buy school things for "Hams with hearts" program. We pack them and ship to Annobon by sea, as by air it is not possible due to its weight. Our friends Eduardo and Alida finalized this action by giving these presents to school and children of Annobon.

Thanks to everybody who supported "Hams with hearts" program and helped the children of Annobon.



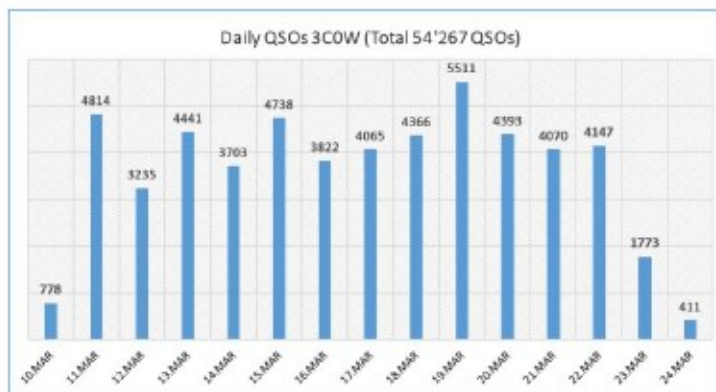
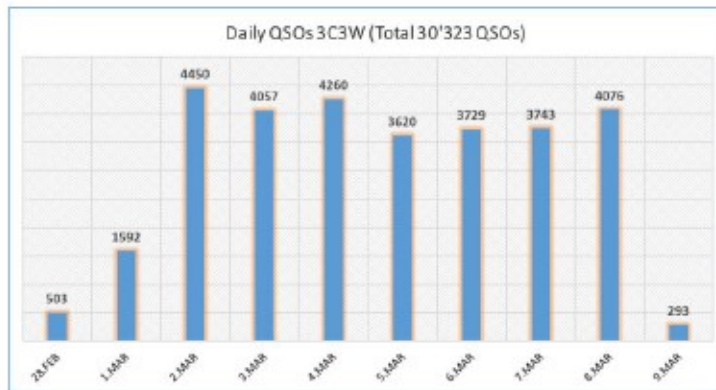
Girts YL2KL



Yuris YL2GM



STATISTICS



Band/Mode breakdown 3C3W

Band	SSB	CW	RTTY	Total	Total %
160	0	330	0	330	1.1%
80	48	1720	0	1768	5.8%
60	0	0	0	0	0.0%
40	1101	3314	509	4924	16.2%
30	0	2714	748	3462	11.4%
20	1949	5554	468	7971	26.3%
17	700	5361	718	6779	22.4%
15	444	4075	424	4943	16.3%
12	0	143	3	146	0.5%
10	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Totals	4242	23211	2870	30323	100.0%

Band/Mode breakdown 3C0W

Band	SSB	CW	RTTY	Total	Total %
160	3	489	0	492	0.9%
80	215	1404	56	1675	3.1%
60	0	321	0	321	0.6%
40	2212	4163	715	7090	13.1%
30	0	5755	735	6490	12.0%
20	4367	7969	842	13178	24.3%
17	2977	7896	1020	11893	21.9%
15	2825	7007	350	10182	18.8%
12	593	1562	63	2218	4.1%
10	68	660	0	728	1.3%
Totals	13260	37226	3781	54267	100%

DXCC by Band/Mode breakdown 3C3W

Band	SSB	CW	RTTY	Total
160	0	36	0	36
80	18	72	0	72
60	0	0	0	0
40	64	86	44	92
30	0	80	44	81
20	80	95	48	108
17	42	100	51	110
15	47	89	49	92
12	0	27	3	28
10	0	0	0	0
Totals	100	128	71	138

DXCC by Band/Mode breakdown 3C0W

Band	SSB	CW	RTTY	Total
160	3	49	0	49
80	35	63	19	66
60	0	39	0	39
40	82	88	51	106
30	0	96	47	96
20	100	108	54	124
17	81	117	62	120
15	104	119	54	133
12	52	80	15	85
10	16	47	0	52
Totals	128	137	80	150

Continent by Mode 3C3W

Band	SSB	CW	RTTY	Total	Total %
AF	54	118	21	193	0.6%
AN	0	1	0	1	0.0%
AS	261	2641	329	3231	10.7%
EU	2202	14715	1888	18805	62.0%
NA	1643	5442	604	7689	25.4%
OC	9	48	1	58	0.2%
SA	73	246	27	346	1.1%
Totals	4242	23211	2870	30323	100.0%

Continent by Mode 3C0W

Band	SSB	CW	RTTY	Total	Total %
AF	159	217	34	410	0.8%
AN	0	0	0	0	0.0%
AS	590	4400	375	5365	9.9%
EU	9195	21593	2466	33254	61.3%
NA	3036	10238	842	14116	26.0%
OC	18	97	5	120	0.2%
SA	262	681	59	1002	1.8%
Totals	13260	37226	3781	54267	100%

Continent by Band 3C3W

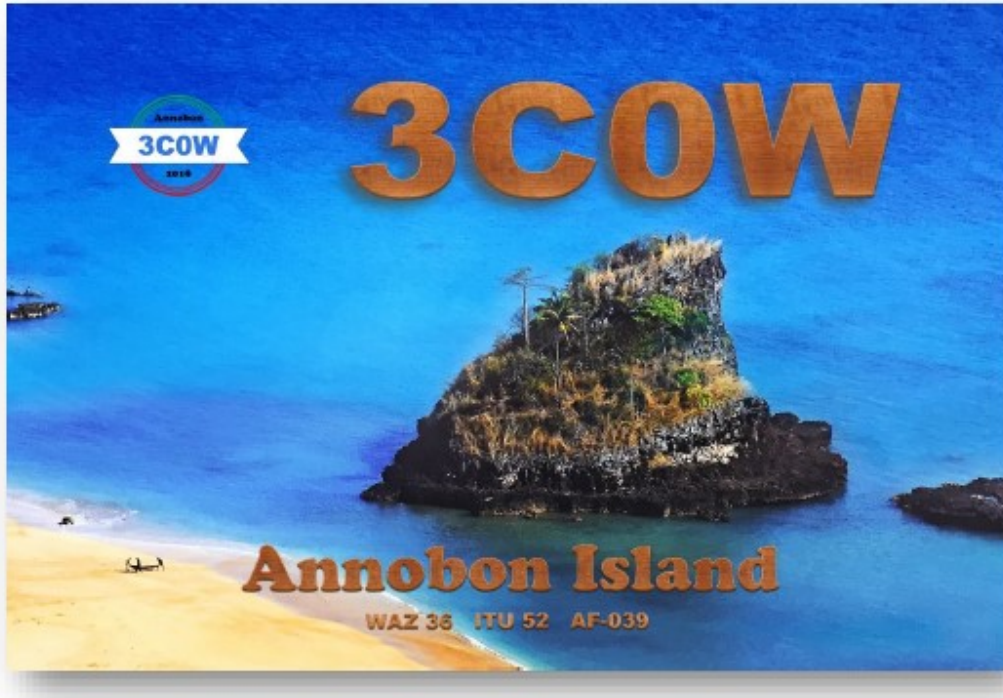
Band	160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	Total	Total %
AF	2	13	0	22	17	52	55	30	2	0	193	0.6%
AN	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.0%
AS	13	129	0	617	916	976	493	86	1	0	3231	10.7%
EU	262	1160	0	2333	1906	4336	4767	3908	133	0	18805	62.0%
NA	52	431	0	1864	580	2523	1369	862	8	0	7689	25.4%
OC	0	3	0	10	8	12	17	8	0	0	58	0.2%
SA	1	32	0	78	34	72	78	49	2	0	346	1.1%
Totals	330	1768	0	4924	3462	7971	6779	4943	146	0	30323	100%

Continent by Band 3C0W

Band	160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	Total	Total %
AF	2	11	8	31	31	96	70	102	42	17	410	0.8%
AN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
AS	24	217	2	1101	1586	1243	665	495	21	11	5365	9.9%
EU	393	1109	218	3083	2690	7330	8905	7275	1667	584	33254	61.3%
NA	66	297	86	2733	2085	4323	2089	2000	372	65	14116	26.0%
OC	0	1	0	12	15	17	29	43	2	1	120	0.2%
SA	7	40	7	130	83	169	135	267	114	50	1002	1.8%
Totals	492	1675	321	7090	6490	13178	11893	10182	2218	728	54267	100%

QSL CARDS





EXPEDITION SUPPORTERS

Clubs and associations



INDEXA



Willamette Valley



Equipment and corporates

www.eantenna.es



Individual supporters 100\$+

K7GEX

LA2IR

W6SZN

N5MOA

W2LO

W8LRL

CONCLUSION

In total we established 84 590 QSOs. We hope that many amateurs were very happy that they were able to make QSOs with 3C for one more time in case they missed 3COL/3C1L in 2017.

Thanks to all our supporters and thank you for reading this story.

73, Yuris/YL2GM/, Kas/YL1ZF/, Girts/YL2KL/

You can find more information on expedition webpage: http://www.lral.lv/3c0w_3c3w/



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INDEXA



International DX Association
398 Lakeview Shores Loop
Mooreville, NC 28117 USA
www.INDEXA.org

December 2018

Greetings INDEXA members and fellow DXers around the globe!

I would like to personally thank all of you for your INDEXA membership and support this year. The year 2018 was another banner year for INDEXA. We had a few changes on our Board of Directors. Roberto CE3CT, Mary K1MMH and Joe JJ3PRT retired from their posts on the board. I want to especially THANK all of them for their time and service to INDEXA over the years. They have all committed to continuing their support for INDEXA in the background. The new board members who came aboard in September 2018 and will continue in 2019 are Otis NP4G, Hal W8HC and Steve KZ2I. Otis will serve as our liaison to South and Central America as well as the Caribbean. The 2018 officers (Bob N2OO, John K8YC and Dick W3OA) will be continuing through 2019. Returning for 2019 as directors are Ralph K0IR (Chairman of the board), Bob K4UEE, Lou N2TU, Franz DJ9ZB, Jerry WB9Z and Gary K4MQG. All of our officer and board member profiles can be found on the www.indexa.org website. INDEXA is honored to have such a well-rounded and respected team sharing the load of running INDEXA.

2018 INDEXA SUPPORTED DXPEDITIONS

Bouvet Island, 3Y0Z (Feb 2018 terminated prior to landing)
 Somalia, 6O6O (January 2018) (HWH only as requested) **
 Annobon Island, 3C0W (+ 3C3W Eq. Guinea) (Feb-March 2018) **
 Rotuma Island, 3D2EU (Feb-March 2018)
 St. Brandon Island, 3B7A (April 2018)
 Baker Island, KH1/KH7Z (June/July 2018)

2019 INDEXA SUPPORTED DXPEDITIONS

Central Kiribati (Kanton Island), T31EU (Feb/March 2019) **

** Note: Hams With Hearts (HWH) support included.

Heritage Class Membership: INDEXA initiated a special class of membership called the "Heritage Class". This special level of membership is given to anyone who pledges to include INDEXA in their wills or other estate plans. We have made it fairly simple to join this special level of membership. Just pledge to leave something to INDEXA. That's it. The current list can be found here <http://indexa.org/donors.html>. Contact Dick W3OA if you are interested, or have any questions at secretary@indexa.org.

501(c)(3): INDEXA is a Non-Profit organization in the USA. For U.S. taxpayers this means that your donations to INDEXA are now tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Please consider an "end of year" contribution to "INDEXA"! Do you have a friend who you would like to give a gift to? Consider a gift membership! It is still only \$20/year and you can beat any potential dues increases in the future by paying up in advance for multiple years.

Social Media: INDEXA has a presence on Facebook and Twitter thanks to our "Social Media Manager" Steve Molo, KI4KWR. Just search INDEXA on Facebook. On Twitter, use @INDEXA_DX.

INDEXA's financial support is generally limited to rare DXCC entities only. INDEXA uses Club Log's current DXCC Most Wanted List in making our support decisions. Our support will be limited to DXpeditions going to entities listed in the Top 60 of the list. You can review the list at www.clublog.org. INDEXA also requires any DXpedition asking for our support to agree to INDEXA support requirements and to submit an overview of their plans and policies for our review.

2019 promises to be a strange year for DXing in general. Low or no sunspots have made band conditions relatively poor. For sure, the focus has turned towards the low bands more and more. For many, the new weak signal mode FT8 has become extremely popular. Several recent DXpeditions have utilized this new mode to enhance their overall operations with success! Like it or not, FT8 has provided a new way to chase DX and has proven to be a reliable mode as well.

Let me wish you all a very happy 2019 in the DX chasing world!
And.... I'll see ya' in the Pileups for sure!

73
Bob Schenck
President, INDEXA

Amateur Radio (illegally) Aiding Yacht Racers by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

The Golden Globe Race (<https://goldengloberace.com>), a 30,000 mile, non-stop solo yacht race to celebrate Sir Robin Knox-Johnston's historic 1968/9 world first solo non-stop circumnavigation. There are 18 sailors in the race, which started on July 1, 2018 from Les Sables-D'Olonne, France.

Amateur radio is at the heart of the latest controversy surrounding the race. *Scuttlebutt Sailing News* reported (<https://www.sailingscuttlebutt.com/2019/01/21/maintaining-information-barrier/>) on January 21, 2019 (day 205 of the race):

"Sailors have been making use of the Amateur Radio net (ham radio) for decades, and while National telecommunication authorities have often turned a deaf ear to unlicensed operators using made-up call signs while at sea, warnings from a National regulator to Golden Globe Race skippers has created intrigue into an exciting finale for race leaders.

"Modern navigation and routing tools are restricted from use in the 2018-19 contest, limiting GGR skippers to the type of equipment available for the inaugural Sunday Times Golden Globe solo non-stop round the world race in 1968-69. That includes Amateur Radio.

"The skippers have been using this free communication system to gain weather forecasts and maintain contact with their teams, which is allowed under the Race Rules. However, it is the responsibility of each skipper to ensure that they abide by National and International regulations which Jean-Luc Van Den Heede and Mark Slats, in first and second in the race, have not been doing. [[Neither Van den Heede or Slats have valid amateur radio licenses...Dan]]

"Said the warning, 'You use an amateur callsign and are making connections with amateur radio operators. The call sign letters are not registered, and thus illegal. I ask you to stop. If you have a legal amateur callsign then I urge you to present it.'"

As a result of this warning, Slats is considering dropping out of the race, even though the race is nearly complete. *Yachting Monthly* reports (<https://www.yachtingmonthly.com/boat-events/golden-globe-race/golden-globe-race-slats-considers-quitting-comms-row-68574>):

"Mark Slats, who is less than 50 miles from Golden Globe Race leader Jean-Luc Van Den Heede, has announced he is thinking about retiring from the race after being banned from broadcasting on the Ham Radio Net.

"Race organisers said the Dutch skipper does not have the required license, and has been warned by the Dutch authorities to stop broadcasting, which has left him unable to communicate with his shore



Christophe FAVREAU / GGR 2018

One of the yachts participating in the Golden Globe Race 2018.

team.

"Under the rules of the race, all of the entrants are able to use this free communication system to gain weather forecasts and maintain contact with their teams, but, it is the responsibility of each skipper to ensure that they abide by national and international regulations."

It's not only the yachters that are flouting the rules, it's the amateur radio operators who are communicating with them. According to *Yachting Monthly*, OFCOM, the UK regulator issued the following warning:

"Fair warning both to unregistered GGR skippers and to legitimate Ham radio operators communicating with them. In Britain, the Ham Radio net is controlled by OFCOM, which recently revoked more than 500 licenses for non-compliance. This includes communicating with unregistered Ham radio operators. The maximum penalty is 6 months in prison, a £5,000 fine and loss of their license."

This is a fascinating story, and I wish that I'd found out about this sooner. It would be interesting to listen in on some of these communications. One question I have is why these guys failed to obtain a valid amateur radio license? The Golden Globe Radio website notes, "[The race] will be sailed under the auspices of the Royal Nomuka Yacht Club in the Kingdom of Tonga. His Royal Highness, Crown Prince Tupouto'a Ulukalala is Patron of the Race." They probably could have issued valid amateur radio licenses to all the racers.

If any of you have heard the communications or know any more about the technical details, I'd love to hear from you.

Children Tangled In Dipole After Special Event Station Becomes Pokéstop

By K5KAC, on the scene (via www.hamhijinks.com)

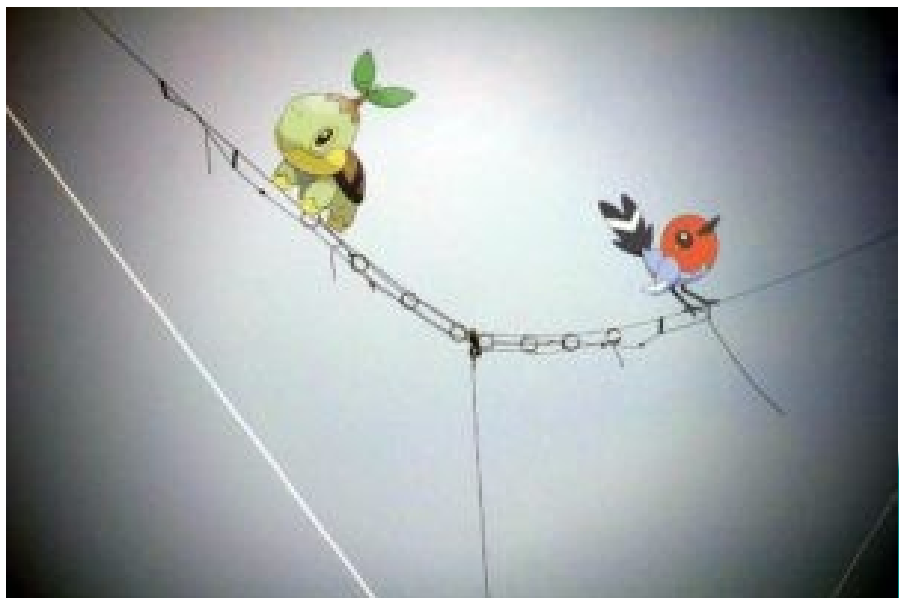
VERMILION, OREGON - The Vermilion City Amateur Radio Club awoke early yesterday morning to the cries of local children tangled in their 80m dipole.

"From far away I could see the screens of their iPhones glowing as they called out for help in getting untangled. It was the loudest racket I've ever heard," said Ash Allman, who lead the effort in freeing the kids.

The children were caught in the dipole after the S.S. Anne Park and Marina was named a Pokéstop in the popular mobile game Pokémon GO. A Pokéstop is an area, typically a landmark or park, where Pokémon Trainers can converge to get prizes and set lures to attract rare Pokémon characters. A player must physically visit these locations to collect the rewards.

"We were all set up to work into the night, but the band conditions went south so we decided to get some rest," lamented Misty Brock, the event organizer. "It wasn't until morning that we found about a dozen kids wrapped up in the legs of the dipole."

At press time, the special event station had been forced to cease operation due to lack of participation, with one member finding a high-level Charmander character in his tent and the rest wandering the nearby tree line looking for a Clefairy.





Meeting Information

NODXA Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the *Gourme Family Restaurant* at 15315 Pearl Road (Rt. 42) just west of Interstate 71 and south of Rt. 82 in Strongsville at 7:30 PM. Come early and have dinner and meet your fellow DXers and enter the 50/50 raffle.

NODXA Information

NO8DX: Special Event Callsign
 W8DXA: NODXA Repeater 147.360

Web-site: <http://www.papays.com/nodxa.html>
 Newsletter Submission: wd8iou@adelphia.net

NODXA Club Officials for 2017-2018

President:	Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW	(440-237-2816)
V. President:	Dennis Stuber, K8LBT	(440-628-1959)
Secretary:	Glenn Williams, AF8C	(440-934-5566)
Treasurer:	Mary Michaelis, N8DMM	(440-236-5426)
Newsletter:	David Autry, WD8IOU	(440-238-0417)



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DXCC Info

As of January 2018, the current DXCC Entities total is: **340**.

NODXA Application and Renewal Form

The Northern Ohio DX Association is a non-profit organization with a primary interest in DXing. We encourage all DXers to join our group and share the interest and fun of DXing.

Please complete the application below and send along your appropriate dues or renewal to:

NODXA, P.O. Box 361624 , Strongsville, Ohio 44136

First Time Membership/Renewal (U.S. and DX) \$20.00

Name _____ Callsign _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State/Prov. _____
 Country _____ ZIP _____
 E-mail _____
 Telephone _____
 ARRL Member? _____ Exp. Date _____ DXCC Member? _____
 Special Interest _____

Newsletter Contributors

Thanks to the following for their contribution to this months edition: N8TR, N8DMM, KB8NW, AF8C, K8YSE, K8MFO, KB6NU, YL2GM, K5KAC, Mike Peters, and hamhijinks.com.