



The DX-Tra

A Newsletter of the South Florida DX Association
July-Aug 2026

President – Jeff, WB3ISP Vice President – Al, KJ3Q
Secretary – Rich, WB4EHG Treasurer – Gil, W1RG
Directors: Randy, N4QV; John, K2SHA; Bill, W2CQ; Mark, K2AU
Webmaster, Newsletter Editor and Prize Chairman – Howard, W6HDG
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Highlights from our July 8, 2026 SFDXA Meeting

We had an excellent attendance of over 40 people, both in-person and on Zoom. Thank you all for participating! Our club president, Jeff, WB3ISP, officiated.

We also had two very special members in attendance: Norm Alexander, W4QN, our esteemed club founder, and Mark Wohlschlegel, WC3W, a very well-known DXer and administrator of the DX Marathon. See Mark's article in this newsletter. The meeting started with an excellent presentation by Barry Porter, KB1PA, ARRL Southern Florida Section Manager. This was followed by an address by Dan Fisher, AI4GK, who is also running for Section Manager.



Our featured speaker was Chris Hetherington, K0CJH, who is the creator and maintainer of [OpenHamClock](#), an open-source ham radio dashboard that brings real-time propagation data, DX cluster spots, POTA/SOTA activity, and solar conditions together in one self-hosted display.

An active operator and President of the Penn Wireless Association (W3SK), Chris blends his amateur radio passion with a professional background in software development and live event production. In a nutshell, in just 5 months, Chris and his team have created an indispensable tool for DXers. Thank you, Chris!!





President's Message

President's Message

Fellow DXers,

What a turnout. Our July 8th meeting was one of the best-attended gatherings we've had in some time – more than 40 members and guests joined us, split between the room and Zoom. Seeing that kind of participation, both in person and online, is a great reminder of how healthy and engaged this club has become. Thank you to everyone who showed up and took part.

We were fortunate to have Barry Porter give us an update on the ARRL and its current activities. It's always valuable to hear where our national organization is headed, and Barry's remarks gave us plenty to think about.

We also had the pleasure of hearing from Dan Fisher, AI4GK, who presented himself as a candidate for ARRL South Florida Section Manager. I'd encourage every member to get to know the candidates and make your voice heard when the time comes – strong local leadership benefits all of us.

The headline of the evening was our bylaw vote. I'm pleased to report that the membership approved the proposed changes, which lower the requirements for membership and simplify our overall membership structure. The official results: of 27 eligible voters, 24 voted in favor and 1 opposed, with the remaining ballots not returned before the deadline. That's an overwhelming mandate, and I want to thank everyone who took the time to cast a vote. These changes will make it easier for newcomers to join us and keep our roster growing.

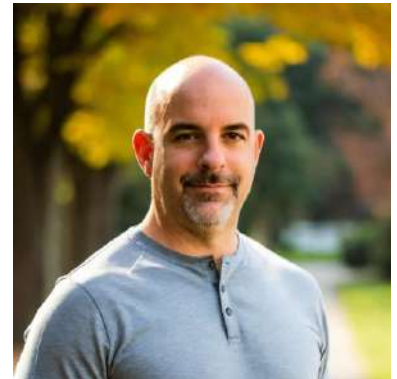
Our program for the evening was a real treat: Chris Hetherington, K0CJH, gave an in-depth demonstration and presentation on OpenHamClock, walking us through the website and its many features. It was a hands-on look at a tool a lot of us will find genuinely useful at the operating position, and I want to thank Chris for the time and care he put into it.

With the business behind us, our attention now turns to the fun stuff on the calendar – including our K4C World Cup Special Event Station. There's plenty of operating and volunteering ahead, and I hope you'll get on the air with us. Thanks again to all who made this month's meeting such a success.

Finally, on a somber note, it is with a heavy heart that we mark the passing of our friend and fellow member Dan Ross, AI4CJ. Dan was a devoted amateur radio operator and a longtime part of our SFDXA family – the kind of ham who lived the hobby, was always ready to get on the air, share a contact, and lend his knowledge and enthusiasm to those around him. His participation in this club and in the wider ham radio community left a real mark, and his presence on the bands and at our meetings will be deeply missed. Our thoughts are with his family and friends. 73, Dan – silent key, but never forgotten.

73,

Jeff Dale, WB3ISP President, South Florida DX Association





New Members

New Members and Applicants

Welcome New Members!

New Full Members must attend two meetings in person or on Zoom, so the Applicants listed with a (*) are fully qualified but pending.

Roland Archer K4XD
Jay Juliano WF9T
Leonardo Baldi K4ITA
Miguel Hernandez KK4CDK
Dirk Basting N4AN
Barry Porter KB1PA
Dan Fisher AI4GK*
Daisy Otero K4DBO*

Want to join in on the fun? Simply fill out our [online application](#). The cost is only \$10 for Associate Members (no DXCC yet) or \$20 for Full Members (at least one mixed DXCC Award required). You do not need to be local to join. The Zoom meetings alone are worth the price of admission.

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS REWARDS...

- Operate the HF bands from our well-equipped club station (Full Members only after tutorial)
- Meet active members of the local DX community
- Hear informative speakers; witness technical demonstrations
- Learn about propagation, antennas, digital operating modes and more
- Meet DXpedition team members in person or on Zoom directly after their DXpedition
- Greet foreign DXers touring South Florida
- Strategize with others about how to work upcoming DXpeditions
- Exchange DX information daily with fellow members on the SFDXA wide area repeater
- Learn from our DXCC Honor Roll members the operating secrets you need to know to achieve that level of distinction
- Obtain physical assistance from other members for your tower and antenna projects
- Enjoy periodic SFDXA social gatherings





Show Us Your First Station

OK, I'll start. Hopefully, this will become a regular feature if others contribute. This is my novice station from 1963. Now W6HDG, I was WN2GXS in Merrick, Long Island, and I was 12 years old back then. The Hammarlund HQ-129X receiver was a post-war radio that could be purchased on the used market for well under \$100 since it sold new for \$129 in 1946! The Eico 720 was a CW-only transmitter and had been built from a \$99 kit by one of the hams in my area. He sold it to me for \$65. This equipment was very functional. The Eico 720 had a 6146 final and was perfect for a novice who was allowed to have 75 watts of power input. The Eico was crystal-controlled and had a single FT-243 crystal socket. The HQ-129X was a 10-tube receiver with three IF stages, a variable crystal filter, BFO, and a temperature-compensated oscillator to reduce any drift during warm-up. Hammarlund really knew what they were doing. The BFO allowed me to hear early sideband stations loud and clear. Compare my total purchase price of \$1.50 per pound to the current cost of ground beef!



Image digitally enhanced with AI



Questions of the Month

Answers are posted on the last page of the Newsletter

Question 1

Which two DXCC entities were deleted by the ARRL in 2017 only to be reinstated a few months later?

- A) Kerguelen and Kure Islands
- B) Midway and Kure Islands
- C) Midway and Johnston Islands
- D) Johnston and Malpelo Islands

Question 2

P5-North Korea is Number One on ClubLog's DXCC Most Wanted List. Which entity is Number Two?

- A) -KJ6/KH3 Johnston Island
- B) BS7H-Scarborough Reef
- C) CE0X-San Felix Islands
- D) YV0-Aves Island

Bonus Question

If you were a ham in the 50's or 60's, what were these two items (Comet and a Pencil) used for?

- A) Removing errors in the Ameco Logbook which were made with a pen. Correcting fluid was not yet a thing, so a tiny bit of comet with water could scrub off the pen marks without destroying the thick paper in the logbook. After learning this lesson, hams were encouraged to always use a pencil for their logbook.
- B) When repairing large vacuum tube receivers and transmitters, the pencil was used to write the tube model on the chassis to avoid a disastrous accidental swap of tubes. Comet and a bit of water on a Q-tip could then clean all eight octal socket pins.
- C) Cleaning switch contacts. After cleaning the contacts with a Q tip dipped in a 50-50 mixture of comet and water, all contact surfaces were cleaned and coated with the highly conductive graphite in a pencil - basically by "drawing" over each metal surface.
- D) Changing the frequency of FT-243 Crystals - way before VFO's were popular.





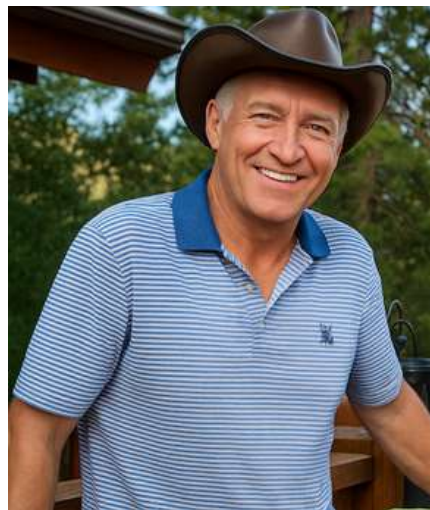
DX Marathon

Fun, Simple, Global

By: Mark Wohlschlegel WC3W

Mark is an SFDXA Member and is the Administrator of the [DX Marathon](#).

The DX Marathon is one of amateur radio's most enjoyable operating programs because it isn't just about competition—it's about exploration, persistence, and having fun throughout an entire calendar year. Whether you're a casual operator with a simple wire antenna or a serious DXer with a contest-grade station, the DX Marathon offers something for everyone.



The DX Marathon was created in 1939 by Radio Magazine, the predecessor of CQ Magazine. It was immediately put on hold due to the start of WWII. It tried to return after the war in 1948 but simply could not get traction. In 2005, Bob Locher, W9KNI, approached CQ Magazine and asked if they would support a return of the program. They accepted Bob's proposal and found an administrator, John Sweeney, K9EL, who managed the program single-handedly for 17 consecutive years. John retired from the program in 2022, and I picked it up and restructured it, in particular, adding 4-5 volunteers. The program was originally designed and subsequently introduced in 2005 as a year-long operating challenge designed to encourage amateur radio operators to pursue DX consistently throughout the entire year rather than during a single contest weekend. The concept was simple: award points for working and confirming as many different DXCC entities and CQ zones as possible during the calendar year. By emphasizing persistence, operating skill, and worldwide participation rather than high-rate contesting, the DX Marathon quickly gained popularity among DXers and contesters alike. Today, it continues as a global program that celebrates the excitement of chasing DX every day of the year. In addition, it has been the fastest-growing program for DXing in our hobby, having experienced double-digit growth for 4 consecutive years.

What makes the program unique is its simplicity.

There is no registration required.

There are no confirmation emails to wait for.

There are no forms to fill out before you begin.

In fact, if you've made a single DX contact in 2026, you're already participating.

When you're ready, simply visit: entry.dxmarathon.com



DX Marathon, con't

Upload your ADIF log file and you're entered. That's it! When you submit, you can also designate your club as the SFDXA and your score will be tabulated with your fellow club members for a number of club plaque awards. Don't worry about filtering your log. Upload your entire ADIF file if you wish. Our software automatically identifies and scores only your qualifying 2026 contacts. The process is designed to be as easy and user-friendly as possible.

Better yet, you can upload as often as you'd like. Many participants upload monthly, while others upload after major contests or DXpeditions. Some upload only once near the end of the year. The choice is entirely yours.

The 2026 DX Marathon remains open until December 31, 2026, giving everyone a full year to improve their scores, chase new entities, and enjoy the thrill of hearing that rare station emerge from the noise. The program has become truly global, attracting participants from every continent. Operators compete within a variety of classes that allow stations of all sizes and capabilities to participate on a level playing field. Whether you prefer CW, SSB, digital modes, or a combination of all three, there is a place for you in the DX Marathon.

One feature participants especially appreciate is that every entrant receives a personalized certificate recognizing their accomplishments for the year. Regardless of your final score or ranking, your efforts are acknowledged and celebrated. The certificate becomes a lasting record of your DX achievements and the stations, entities, and zones worked during the year.

The DX Marathon is designed to reward participation as much as achievement. It encourages operators to get on the air consistently, discover new DX opportunities, and enjoy the journey rather than focusing solely on a final score.

So why not give it a try? Check out more details at www.dxmarathon.com.

Work DX. Upload your log. Watch your progress throughout the year. Most importantly, have fun.

The DX Marathon is simple, rewarding, global, and open to everyone.

We'll see you on the bands in 2026!

The South Florida DX Association has been an active sponsor for many years, having contributed \$100 for a plaque award. In 2025 and 2026, the club is the sponsor of the '75 and over' Top US Club, which happened to be the Potomac Valley Radio Club. In addition, our very own Bill, W2CQ, and Mike, W4UM, have personally sponsored the top World Youth award and World 6M Band plaques, respectively.





SFDXA History by Bill W2CQ

W4BWP, Bruce Power, Jr (SK) manning the 1961 DX booth at the Miami Tropical Hamboree...We were called the Florida DX Club at that time as we were the ONLY DX club in the state.



Hamboree Invitation circa 1964



Florida DX Club circa 1972

Another picture of the Miami Tropical Hamboree...we had feature tables usually alongside ARRL for 40 or more years. We brought in speakers from all over. We featured a DX Forum and a DX Dinner to go with it annually. Long before there was an Orlando Event. "South Florida DX Association (SFDXA) became a formal club about 1975. Started by Norm W4QN. Don W4WJ (SK) was President for many years.(70's and 80's).





SFDXA History by Bill W2CQ Con't

Below is list of members below who attended the February 1983 "Gator DX Forum" at the Flagler Dog Track and the Dinner which followed at the Ramada Airport Inn. It is a list of Who's Who of Top DXers in the world at the time...some have different calls now. The sponsor list at the bottom right included some of the producers of major DX products of that time. Of note is Norm W4QQN(W4QN), Mike K4KUZ(W4UM), and Doug WB4MAI(W4OX) who are still members. Tom N4TL(still in touch with the club), WB4OSN(W4IR), John K8PXG(K4WJ), and some others have moved. Many are SK's. This is about the same time I joined the club. I (W2CQ) attended that year and met Don W4WJ(President) and Mike K4KUZ(W4UM). I could not make it to the dinner that night but heard it was a terrific affair. Club meetings in those early years were held in Members homes. They always had plenty of food and 813's (beer). Hospital Auditorium meetings did not come until much later.

RAMADA AIRPORT INN
7:00 P.M.

MC - MIKE RASKIN - K4KUZ

FEATURED SPEAKER:
VINCE THOMPSON K5TT
"JOURNEY TO EXOTIC PLACES WITH K5TT"

MENU:
FRENCH ONION SOUP
MIXED GREENS (CHOICE OF DRESSING)
BRAISED SWISS STEAK JARDINIÈRE
BUTTERED EGG NOODLES
GREEN PEAS & MUSHROOMS
ROLLS & BUTTER
CREME DE MENTHE SUNDAY
COFFEE OR TEA

THE 1983 SFDXA COMMITTEE HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED OUR PROGRAM--TELL YOUR FRIENDS AND JOIN US NEXT YEAR.

JOE WB4OSN DON W4WJ
LARRY W4AAV MIKE K4KUZ
SOUTH FLORIDA DX ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 4541
NARGATE, FLORIDA 33063
REPEATER: 147.93/.33 MHz

DOOR PRIZE DONATED BY CRANE AMATEUR RADIO
FT. LAUD., FLA.

DX FORUM
FLAGLER DOG TRACK

THE SOUTH FLORIDA DX ASSOCIATION IS PLEASED TO HOST THE FOURTH ANNUAL GATOR DX FORUM & DINNER.

MC - MATT HARPER - K4KIU

PROGRAM: STARTS AT 2:30 P.M.

HOM'S DX.....ELLEN WHITE W1YL/4

"DKING, YESTERDAY AND TODAY"....VIC CLARK W4XPC

DXCC TOPICS.....DON SEARCH W3JED

DX CONTESTING.....JIM WHITE K1ZX

QSY TO RAMADA AIRPORT INN FOR
ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT
&
DINNER

SFDXA MEMBERS:

W4AAV	-- LARRY	NW40	-- CLEVE
N4AM	-- SHEL	W50G	-- BILL
WD4AUB	-- WALT	W400	-- GENE
W3JED	-- DON	WB4OSN	-- JOE
K4CEP	-- EART	W4OVJ	-- BEUCE
AA4CM	-- MIKE	N40W	-- AL
N4CN	-- CLIFF	W4OWJ	-- JACK
W1CW	-- BOB	WB2FKP	-- DAVE
K4ZDIY	-- GRANT	K8FXI	-- JOHN
W50ZF	-- SCOTTY	K4FY	-- GELINO
WD4DEZ	-- BOB	W4QC	-- JIM
WD4FAX	-- PHIL	W4QQN	-- NORM
W4PLA	-- SHEPM	K4RD	-- ERNIE
KB4PO	-- JOE	N4RR/8	-- ROGER
AE4H	-- TOM	W4RRB	-- CHARLIE
WD4IYS	-- HARVEY	W2SR	-- ROB
W9KA	-- BOY	N4TL	-- TOM
K4KIU	-- MATT	N4CQ/KP4	-- VIC
K4KUZ	-- MIKE	K2UNQ	-- KAY
W4LGL	-- JACK	VP2VI	-- BOB
W4LEX	-- EUGER	W4WJ	-- DON
K4LQ/06A	-- FRED	W4XZ	-- JERRY
K4LXZ	-- SCOTT	W1YL	-- ELLEN
WB4MAI	-- DOUG	WB4YNL	-- ED
W4WMSU	-- DON	W9ZNY	-- FRANK
WB4RCJ	-- BUREY	K1ZX	-- JIM
N4NJ	-- JEFF		

TNI: DX STAMP SVC., W6GC LIST, THE DX BULLETIN,
THE DX REPORT, THE DX EDGE & QRI DX.



FOURTH ANNUAL "GATOR" DX FORUM & DINNER
FEB. 5, 1983

W4WJ

Odds and Ends

Lightning and South Florida

Over the past couple of weeks, I seem to be disconnecting my antennas every few hours. Being from California, I used to disconnect a couple of times a year! Anyway, if you aren't using the "My Lightning Tracker" app on your iPhone or Android, try it. The push notifications are indispensable. There are plenty of other apps that are popular as well.



DX Happenings July-Aug 2026

Have you bookmarked these popular DX News Sites?

[ARRL W1AW DX Bulletin - Current and Archived](#)
[425 DX News](#)
[DX World](#)

[Daily DX \(Free Trial then Paid\)*](#)
[NG3K Announced DX Operations List](#)
[DX Calendar at DX Maps - sign up for daily_email](#)

*Editor's Note: The Daily DX is my favorite and I have subscribed for years. They have a free trial.

TUVALU T2JK

Aki writes, "I will be active from Funafuti, Tuvalu as T2JK again during July 30th - August 7th, 2026. Activity will be on 80-6m; on weekdays I will be active after 5pm Tuvalu time and all day during the weekend of my stay.

If the stay is extended, it may be possible to continue operations until August 14th.

The flight on Thursday July 30th will arrive in Funafuti around noon, so operations may begin around 3pm local time. QSL via LoTW."

Masaaki "Aki", JK1JXZ



Fun Fact: While Funafuti encompasses numerous islets, the administrative center and seat of government is specifically located in the village of Vaiaku, situated on the main islet of Fongafale. Funafuti is home to approximately 60% of the nation's total population and hosts the country's parliament, high court, and the Funafuti International Airport.

FRANZ JOSEF LAND RI1FJL About Aug 25-Sept 15

Vasily R7AL writes, "We are pleased to announce the upcoming major DXpedition to Franz Josef Land - the archipelago in the Arctic ocean, that belongs to the Russian Federation and is the northernmost DXCC in the world. Team of 6 operators will be QRV with at least 5 high-power stations 24/7 on all HF bands during 15 days. Our goal is to work as many stations as possible, paying attention to distant regions and low-pistols. We will have a good location with a clear take-off to all most common directions."



Top of the World - Spring Break Anyone?



R7AL Vasily Pinchuk
Team leader



RW8A Slav Rodin
Co-leader



RW9JZ Leo Bereznoy
Technical chief



UA3QLC Vic Fillmonov
CW, SSB operator



UA4Z Ruslan Vladimirov
CW, SSB operator



RA4DX Andrei Soldatkin
SSB operator



DX Happenings (Con't) July-Aug 2026

South Shetland Islands

Rafal, SQ40 reports that all is going well at HF0PAS from the Henryk Arctowski Polish Antarctic Station, King George Island, South Shetland Islands. He will remain there until October 2026. See his [QRZ Page](#) for more info.



Rock On!!

by Howard W6HDG

I'm looking at the ATNOs I need for Honor Roll. The Life Expectancy tables show that I possibly have one sunspot cycle left to attain it (DXers calculate their age, not in years, but in sunspot cycles!).

I only got serious about DX after retirement. I didn't even get a Mixed DXCC until 2013. So most of the entities I need are piles of rocks with nearly insurmountable political or environmental rules. Is Honor Roll less attainable now for newer DXers? I absolutely think so! Perhaps the Remote Deployable units used at Desecheo Island will save us due to their minimal environmental impact.

The Intrepid-DX Group has been working hard over the years to gain permission to activate Kure Atoll, Johnston Island, and most recently Midway Island. Here is the negative response from Midway last year, "Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge...(is) currently closed to public visitation due to limited infrastructure and staffing needed to support visitation while safeguarding sensitive wildlife. Midway Atoll is a critical sanctuary, home to millions of seabirds, shorebirds, ducks, and various marine life. The atoll provides a rare, predator-free refuge for the endangered Laysan duck, Laysan finch, and birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. To consider Amateur Radio operation, the Service would first need to complete a formal compatibility determination to ensure the activity does not interfere with or detract from the purposes of the refuge and monument. Feel free to continue checking in on the status of a compatibility determination, but I don't see anything changing"

In 2018, the Pacific Islands DXpedition Group (PIDXG) made an application to the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) for permission to mount a DXpedition to Kure. The DLNR denied PIDXG's application. The Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources is the administrator of Kure Atoll. The official position of the DLNR was that Amateur Radio 'cannot be conducted with adequate safeguards for the resources and ecological integrity' of Kure Atoll. Officials contended that antennas would pose a risk to the island's bird population. The PIDXG's reasoning and pleas were all for naught. The future chances are grim.



Club Log

Club Log, created by Michael G7VJR is an indispensable tool for DXers. Below is a report of how SFDXA is doing. Compare your results to other members of our club! By the way, we are currently ranked 32nd DX Club in the World. We would like for all of our members to join Club Log, whether you have 1 entity worked or are Top of Honor Roll. Nineteen members as of this writing is a fraction of our membership.

Be sure to go Clublog.org to sign up. Upload your log as instructed. Then go to SETTINGS: CLUBS to join us. It takes a day or two for our club administrators to approve you.

League for SFDXA - South Florida DX Association

Rank	Callsign	160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6	DXCC ▼	Slots	Range
1	W4UM ★	184	295	161	330	318	338	326	333	321	333	173	340	3112	68 yrs
2	W9IL	15	138	0	221	163	334	275	310	208	285	8	340	1957	68 yrs
3	N4QV+2	113	243	81	305	291	337	293	312	254	293	88	339	2610	60 yrs
4	K2AU	4	195	3	250	261	330	290	314	280	278	20	339	2225	51 yrs
5	W4OX+1	108	257	10	329	219	335	271	324	235	307	85	338	2480	57 yrs
6	N4JRZ	0	73	0	168	13	322	291	310	275	281	121	335	1854	42 yrs
7	K4FK	30	102	1	141	110	262	139	213	122	148	5	329	1273	26 yrs
8	KM4NS	128	119	157	173	206	262	212	262	193	221	102	319	2035	25 yrs
9	W6HDG	3	141	8	245	249	291	268	268	218	233	85	316	2009	63 yrs
10	WA1SXX	80	222	16	270	287	297	287	288	279	280	78	308	2384	10 yrs
		160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10	6			
11	W4AS	27	102	1	132	102	244	113	204	105	204	130	307	1364	48 yrs
12	W2CQ+1 ★	2	98	0	136	157	174	220	188	207	229	102	300	1513	37 yrs
13	K4ROX	0	11	0	114	75	225	160	165	151	173	27	285	1101	13 yrs
14	WB4EHG	34	45	20	113	107	179	131	146	86	173	29	248	1063	14 yrs
15	KC3D ★	5	33	0	89	11	157	59	119	21	73	7	200	574	47 yrs
16	KS3K+2	0	2	0	69	33	154	79	114	7	104	3	195	565	58 yrs
17	TG9AWS+1	3	8	0	83	90	100	93	81	47	76	17	184	598	38 yrs
18	KJ3Q+1	0	2	0	34	1	103	30	57	15	90	0	152	332	14 yrs
19	C6APS	0	0	0	90	74	103	82	87	81	67	0	134	584	1 yrs



Software Tools - DXPing

DXPing.com — Smarter DXing Starts Here

If you've ever stared at a wall of cluster spots wondering which ones are actually workable from your QTH, DXPing.com was built for you. DXPing is a live DX spotting and propagation platform that goes beyond the traditional cluster feed. Spots stream in real time from the worldwide DXSpider network, but instead of leaving you to guess whether that VK9 on 12 meters will make it over your horizon, DXPing tells you – before you spin the dial.

At the heart of the platform is DXai, the intelligence engine that powers the whole system. DXai continuously ingests live reception reports from thousands of monitoring stations around the globe, building a real-time picture of what propagation is actually doing right now – not what a prediction model said it might do this morning. Every spot is scored for workability based on current band conditions between the DX station and your location. Even better, DXai understands that a path open on FT8 isn't necessarily open on SSB: its SNR translation model converts digital-mode reception data into realistic workability estimates for CW and phone, so you know whether that new one is worth calling on your favorite mode.

The result is a dashboard that thinks like a DXer. Filter spots by band, mode, and need; watch openings develop as they happen; and let DXai flag the opportunities that matter to your DXCC totals instead of burying them in noise. A daily summary email keeps you in the loop even when you're away from the shack, recapping what was workable from your QTH and what's trending on the bands.

DXPing is free to use and constantly evolving – recent additions include special event station tracking, with a live map following the K4C World Cup 2026 operation this summer. Whether you're chasing your first hundred or hunting the last few on the Honor Roll, point your browser to DXPing.com and let DXai do the listening for you.

DXai / Can I work...? v1.9.0 QTH: EL96WE — All tools

Can I work...?

DXai locates the station and grades the path from their QTH to yours on every band — they don't need to be on the air right now.

Call sign

⚡ Check

VK9XX OH29 • 18,159 km NNW 340° from you

17m • Digital only 15m • CW possible

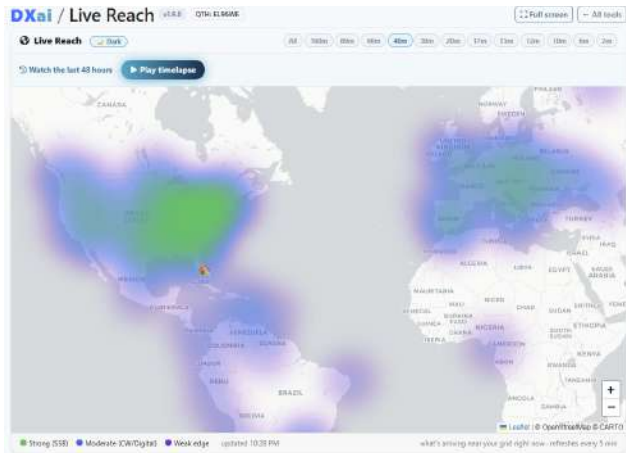
Dashed = estimated from activity near their location; solid = based on their own signals. Their power and antenna still apply.

DXai / Band Conditions Now v1.9.0 QTH: EL96WE — All tools

Band Conditions Now last 60 min - refreshes automatically

BAND	CONDITIONS	TREND	BEST DIRECTIONS	ACTIVITY
160m	OPEN — SSB	↗	N NW	Moderate
80m	OPEN — SSB	↗	N NW SE W	Busy
60m	OPEN — SSB	—	N NW NE W	Moderate
40m	OPEN — SSB	↗	N NW NE W	Very busy
30m	OPEN — SSB	—	N NW NE W	Busy
20m	OPEN — SSB	—	NW N NE W	Very busy
17m	OPEN — SSB	—	NW N W NE	Busy
15m	OPEN — SSB	—	N NW W SE	Busy
12m	OPEN — SSB	—	NW N SW SE	Moderate
10m	OPEN — SSB	—	NW W N SW	Moderate
6m	OPEN — SSB	↘	NW W N SW	Very busy
2m	OPEN — SSB	↘	NW N	Moderate

OPEN — SSB OPEN — CW DIGITAL WYAK QUIET hover any badge for details





Raffle Prize Winners/Sponsors



Top Left: Bill W2CQ won the N3FJP Software Package. Howard W6HDG is presenting.

Top Middle: Jeff WB3ISP won the HRO Gift Certificate for \$50

Top Right: Miguel KK4CDK won the Grand Prize, a WATTS Engineering Labs Black Beauty 10-160 Common Mode Choke



Bottom Left: Fred KB4EE won the Intellitron (Gigaparts) five position 40A Powerpole Hub

Bottom Middle: Gil W1RG won the Custom QSL - 100 Full Color QSL Cards with Free Design

Bottom Right: Helene Ellis won the Rig Cables \$50 Gift Certificate

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Answers to the Questions of the Month

Answers

Question 1

Answer: B

Midway and Kure Islands Were Reinstated as DXCC Entities

On March 31, 2017, the DXCC desk announced the deletion of Midway Island and Kure Island from the DXCC entities list. The stated reason for this action was because of changes in the administration resulting from changes in Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, formerly known as the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument. This included the Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge, the Battle of Midway National Memorial, the Hawaii State Seabird Sanctuary at Kure Atoll, and the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands State Marine Refuge.

After a few months and further review, the ARRL found that the deletion of these two entities was not supported by the changes that were made to the relevant administrations. Therefore, the deletions from the DXCC list should not have occurred and the two entities, Midway Island KH4 and Kure Island KH7K, returned to the DXCC list as separate entities. See the "Rock On" article on page 11 to see why some may lament the ARRL's reversal.

Question 2

Answer A

Johnston Reef

It used to be a ho-hum occurrence to contact Johnston Island in the 1980's. Today it is an off-limits, plutonium contaminated place with the last DXpedition in 2003, right before decommissioning by USAF. If you answered BS7H-Scarborough Reef, it is currently #6 most wanted. The last DXpedition to Scarborough Reef was in 2007, with the BS7H expedition operating from April 29 to May 6, 2007. The team managed to log over 45,000 contacts before having to leave. Earning the nickname "Scaffold Reef", the team operated from four wooden structures built on the rocks to avoid high tide and qualify for DXCC as being "on dry land". The expedition was cut short by the Chinese government due to territorial disputes over the reef. Incidentally, Scarborough Reef does not have a FIFA team since there was no place to practice. hi hi.



Scarborough Reef is cool, but is actually #6 on Club Log's Most Wanted List

Bonus Question

Answer D: Changing the frequency of FT-243 Crystals. If there was a rare DX station a few Khz up, you just needed a small philips screwdriver to open the case. Add a few drops of water and Comet sprinkled on a smooth surface to "grind" your piece of quartz in a circular motion using your fingertip. This raised its operating frequency. Not too much pressure or you would crack the thin quartz square. You would put the washed and dried piece of quartz back in position and screw the case closed. Then you tested it. If you didn't go high enough you repeated the process. Went too high? That's what the carpenters pencil was for. Applying graphite scribble to the crystal blank added mass to the oscillating surface. In physics, this increase in mass on the vibrating element increases inertia, which causes the resonant frequency to drop, typically by a few kilohertz, depending on the amount of graphite used.

