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TNX NG3K, ARRL, OPDX, DXNL, ICPO Bulletin, RSGB IOTA & Six Italia

RED = Important operation GREEN = Details not yet fixed

ON NOW OR WITHIN NEXT WEEK -- IN ARIA ORA O ENTRO UNA SETTIMANA

PFX	COUNTRY	DATE	INFO	QSL
388	Mauritius	NOW - Apr 6	G8AFC is now on /3B8 20, 10 & 6 meteres	H.C. dir
3D2/ R	Rotuma	Dec 20 - Jan 20	3D2AG has confirmed his expedition but start date could be later	H.C. dir
3V	Tunisia	Now – Jan 9	3V8HQ Club will sign TS4NP	Bureau
4 S	Sri Lanka	Jan 3 - Jan 8	EA3Bt & EA3WL will be on as 4J7JTG & 4S7NTG. Will also try to activate AS-171	EA3BT dir& bur & ClubLog
5W	Samoa	Jan 1 - Jan 7	G4BUO will be on signing 5W0UO	Н.С.
5Z	Kenya	Now - Early jan	MOLEP will be /5Z and will operate also 5Z90IARU	
6W	Senegal	Dec 26 - Jan 12	VA3DX will be active /6W1, /6W6 & 6W7	Н.С.

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6W	Senegal	Jan 3 – Jan 31	F6BLP will be on as 6W7SK holiday	
			style 160 to 6 meters	bur LoTW
6Y	Jamaica	Now - Jan 16	W8YCM is now /6Y5	Н.С.
7P	Lesotho	Jan 4 - Jan 7	DDOVR will be on holiday style as 7P8VR	H.C dir & bur
8P	Barbados	Dec 15 - Jan 5	J69AZ will sign 8P9JB	H.C. dir
8T	Antartica	Now - Dec 2016	VU3BPZ is active as BT2BH	I1HYQ
C6	Bahamas	Nov 15- Mar 16	9H5G will operate as C6ATS and will try to activate NA-048-054- 113-80-001	MOOXO
CY0	Sable	Nov 28 - Jan 31	VA1AXC will be /CY0 after his work duties	JE1LET dir
DL	Germany	Dec 19 - Jan 11	DF8HS will operate from EU-128	H.C: bur
DL	Germany	Dec 23 - Jan 2	DL1WH will be /p from EU-047	H.C. dir & bur
DP	Antartica	Nov - Feb	DP1POL base will be active thanks to DL5XL	DL1ZBO and LoTW
E5	S. Cook	Dec 14 - Jan 8	SM6WET will be on as E51WET	H.C. dir
E5	S. Cook	Dec 19 - Jan 9	OZ6TL will spend his holiday as E51TLA	Н.С.
EK	Kyrgyzstan	Now - Jan 8	HB9DUR is signing /EX	H.C. ClubLog
FR	Reunion	Dec 16 - Jan 8	F5UOW will be /FR during spare time	LoTW
FT4X	Kerguelen	Now – Jan 15	F4EGX is now active as FT4XU till Dec 15. Will be again after a few days till middle of Jan	F1ULQ
HP	Panama	Jan 7 - Jan 12	WJ2O will sign /HP3	N2ZN
J6	St.Lucia	Dec 19 - Jan 3	K9HZ will sign J68HZ	H.C. LoTW ClubLog
J7	Dominica	Now - Jan 30	HB9MFM is on as J79WTA	H.C. dir & bur
JA	Japan	Dec 25 - Jan 4	JS6RRR will be on from AS-079. Will also use 8N3KCJ/6	JI3DST bur
JD	Ogasawara	Dec 30 - Jan 9	JG7PSJ will be on saignin JD1BMH	
PJ4	Bonaire	Jan 7 - Jan 22	PA8A will sign PJ4B	H.C. dir
PY	Brazil	Jan 2 - Jan 9	ZP9MCE will be on /PP5 from SA- 026	ZP9MCE Paypal
PY	Brazil	Jan	ZY2QG group will be on from SA-	PY2DS dir

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			071	& bur
Т8	Palau	Dec 24 - Jan 7	JH0IXE will be on all bands	H.C. dir JAOFOX bur
Т8	Palau	Jan 7 - Jan 14	JA6EGL as T88SM, JA6KYU as T88HS, JA6UBY as T88RR	Н.С.
т8	Palau	Jan 7 - Jan 14	JH7IPR will sign T88UW	H.C. dir bur& LoTW
UT	Ukraine	Dec 31 - Jan 9	DK2HM will be /UT on 40 & 20	Н.С-
V2	Antigua	Now - Jan 10	OM3AG is on as V25LK	Н.С.
V2	Antigua	Jan 6 - Jan 14	GW4DVB will sign V25GB	H.C. dir & bur
V 3	Belize	Jan 3 - Jan 12	K7YB will be on as V31YB	Н.С.
V 3	Belize	Jan 9 – Jan 21	DJ4KW will sign V31YN	
V 5	Namibia	Dec 10 - Jan 10	DDOVR will be /V5	H.C. dir & bur
V 5	Namibia	Jan 9 - Feb 18	DC8QT, DD8ZX & DJ9KM will be /V5	Н.С.
V6	Micronesia	Jan 1 - Jan 8	V63GG by JR2GAG	H.C. dir & bur
VK	Australia	Jan 10 - Jan 17	GOUIH will be /6 from OC206	GOUIH dir & bur
VK	Australia	Dec 29 - Jan 1	VK2IAY will sign /3 from OC-136	GOUIH dir & bur
XW	Laos	Now - Jan 15	3W3B is on as XW4XR	
YJ	Vanatu	Dec 27 - Jan 13	DL7VOA will sign YJ4AO	Н.С.
YJ	Vanatu	Jan 2 - Jan 10	VK4AFU will sign YJ0AFU	LoTW & NA5U
Z2	Zimbawe	Now - Jan 7	DE1ZHB will be QRV as Z21LS	Н.С.
ZF	Cayman	Dec 31 - Jan 5	WW4LL will sign ZF2LL	LoTW
ZL9	Sub Artic Islands	Jan 7 - Jan 11	VE3LYC VK5CE SQ8X KD1CT will be on from the new one OC-286	OQRS

TOP 10 DX NEXT DAYS

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PFX	1/1	2/1	3/1	4/1	5/1	6/1	7/1	8/1	9/1	10/1
3D2R	Х	X	X	X	X	Х	Χ	Х	Х	Х
4S7			Х	Х	X	X	X	Χ		
5W	X	X	X	X	X	Х	X			
CY0	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Х	X	X
E5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Х	X	
T8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Χ	X	Χ
V2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Х	X	Х
V5	X	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	Χ	Х	Х	Х
YJ	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Х	X	Х
OC286							Х	Х	X	Х
SA026		Х	X	Χ	Χ	Χ	Х	Х	Х	

FUTURE OPERATIONS --- OPERAZIONI FUTURE

PFX	COUNTRY	DATE	INFO	QSL Info
388	Mauritius	Feb 11 - Mar 1	OE4AAC will operate signing 3B8HD	H.C. dir & bur
388	Mauritius	Apr 15 - Apr 18	MORCX will be on /3B8	ED7BX
3C	Equatorial Guinea	Mar 4 - Mar 13	LA7GIA had to postpone his expe- dition as 3C7GIA	H.C. dir only
3D2	Fiji	Feb 13 - Feb 19	DF6PW will sign 3D2PW	H.C. bur LoTW
3₩	Vietnam	Mar 5 - Mar 18	3W2BR by DK2BR during his holiday in AS-130	H.C. dir
3Х	Guinea	Feb 18 - Mar 4	3XY1T expedition will take place from AF-051	I2YSB dir only
3Y	Bouvet	2016 - 2017	3YOF will be the call of the expedition managed by UN7PCZ	
5W	Samoa	Apr 12 - Apr 20	5W0XG by JA1XGI	Н.С.

Jan	1,	20	16
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5ZKenyaMar 26 - Mar 28TA1HZ will be /5Z7PLesothoJun 5 - Jun 8F6GNZ will be on as 7P8VRA3TongaJan 15 - Feb 15KC0W will be on low bands for Europe	LZ3HI dir LoTW
A3TongaJan 15 - Feb 15KCOW will be on low bands for	
	H.C. dir
A3 Tonga Feb 18 - Feb 24 W5MJ K5NA K5DU ZS6RJ VA7DX VE7P W5PF will sign probably A35T	KW MOURX
C6 Bahamas Feb 8 - Feb 18 N2RFA as C6ABB	H.C & LoTW
CEOY Easter Isl. Feb 10 - Feb 14 W7YAQ will be /CEOY	LOTW
CT9 Madeira Mar 11 - Apr 7 DL3KWR will sign /CT9	H.C. dir & bur
CY St. Paul Aug 19 - Aug 29 CY9C will be on by a 9 operator group	rs WA4DAN OQRS
DL Germany Now - Jan 2 DL1WH is /p from EU-047	H.C. dir & bur
DL Germany Now - Jan 11 DF8HS is /p from EU-128	H.C. dir & bur
E5 N Cook Jan 12 - Jan 21 JA3ARJ, JA3AVO, JA3IVU, JA3UJR, JF3HPN, JH3LSS and JH3PBL will operate. Call will be E51J	
EA8Canary IslandsMar 5 - Mar 6S59M will be in the contest as ED8W	W3HNK
FG Guadeloupe Jan 20 - Feb 2 F6ITD as T06D or /FG from NA-10	02 H.C. dir LoTW
FH Mayotte Mar 18 - Mar 24 F2DX will be /FH	OQRS
FO F.Polynesia Feb 6 - Feb 7 W7YAQ will be /F0	LOTW
FP St. Pierre Mar 17 - Mar 29 KV1J will be /FP	H.C dir bur LoTW
FR/JJuan de NovaMar 29 - Apr 11FT4JA Operation will take place	9
FS St. Martin Feb 2 - Feb 10 WZ1P, W3FF, KC4VG, W6HFP, W7ZT, K8EAB, KB9AVO and WG0AT will be FS 40-10 meters all modes.	
FT4XKerguelenNov / DecAn expedition is planned for the last part of the year	he
H4 Salomon Jan 19 - Apr 14 DL2GAC will be on as H44MS	H.C. dir & bur
H44 H40Solomon TemotuSep 25 - Oct 25 H40GC. More details will follow	
HB0 Liechtenste Apr 15 - Apr 18 EA5IDQ will be /HB0 SSB & RTTY in	H.C dir & bur OQRS

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_	an 1, 2010			
нко	S.Andres	March	A SP team will be on	
нко	S.Andres	March/April	N4THW is planning an expedition to NA-133	
HR	Honduras	Feb 15 - Feb 25	AA4W will sign /HR8	Н.С.
J7	Dominica	Feb 17 - Feb 23	WJ2O will be on /J7 befor his trip to Heard	N2ZN
КН5	Palmyra	Jan 11 - Jan 26	Big team will operate several stations signing probably KH5/p	OQRS LOTW
P4	Aruba	Mar 2016	PA7DA will be on HF /P4	Н.С.
P5	N.Korea	Feb 2016	3Z9DX is planning and expedition Details still not available,	ClubLog
PJ6	Saba	Feb 17 - Feb 22	PJ6A team will be in the contest. 5 operators will sign /PJ6 out from the contest	
PJ7	S.Naarten	Feb 16 - Mar 12	AA9A as PJ7AA	Н.С.
PYOF	F. de Noronha	Jan 19 – Jan 26	PP1CZ will be /PY0F	Н.С.
S9	Sao Tome	Feb 25 - Mar 25	S9BK will be used by HB9BEL	Н.С.
Т32	E. Kiribati	Mar 1 - Mar 16	K8AQM as T32TR, KG8CO as T32CO, K8QKY as T32SB, K8MU as T32MU, AC8W as T32WW, N8LJ as T32LJ, N6FS as T32FS	LOTW
т8	Palau	Jan 21 – Jan 26	JA9FIO as T88UC	JA9FIO
т8	Palau	Jan 29 - Feb 2	JE6DND as T88HK	Н.С.
UA 0	A.Russia	Jan	Russian team will be on from AS- 203	
V2	Antigua	Feb 21 - Mar 4	OH2IS will be on as V26IS	H.C. dir bur LoTW
V4	St.Kitts	Feb 5 - Feb 25	K1KA will sign V47KA	Н.С.
V4	St.Kitts	Feb 13 - Feb 21	K8AQM will be on as V47TR	Н.С.
VK	Australia	Mar 1 - Mar 8	VK5MAV & VK5CE will be /6 from OC- 243	H.C. dir & bur
VK 0	Heard	Mar 6 - Apr 20	VKOEK will be the call of the expedition by a large group (HB9BXE K2ARB K3EL KM4MXD N6TQ NG2H NP4IW UT6UD VK2BAX VK6CQ WJ2O KK6EK W7XU)	KY6R

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VK9C	Cocos Keeling	Mar 14 - Mar 26	VK9CK willl be the call of a large group	LA6OP dir & bur
VK9C	Cocos Keeling	Sep 20 - Oct 4	8 operators are planning an expedition as VK9CK	VK6IR
VP2M	Montserrat	Feb 20 - Feb 25	NE9U, KK9K and Jim will be in the contest	
VP6	Pitcairn	Sep 3 - Nov 25	DL2AH as VP6AH	DL2AH
VP8	South Georgia	Jan 17 - Feb 27	Large tam will be on as VP8SGI	Club Log
VP8	South Sandwich	Jan 15 - Feb 15	Large team will be on VP8STI	Clublog
VP8	S.Georgia	Feb 1 - Feb 11	Large team will be on as VP8SGI	Clublog
W	U.S.A.	Feb 12 - Feb 17	DF8DX will be signing KT3Q/6 from NA-066	H.C. dir bur LoTW
XW	Laos	Jan 15 - Jan 24	XW4ZW by K4ZW	LoTW
XZ	Myanmar	Feb 14 - Mar 15	Expedition planned from AS-182, AS-183 and AS-184. Period could shift to April 15 - May 15	

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SPECIAL CALLS AND PREFIXES

PFX	Country	Date	Info	QSL Info
CE	Chile	Dec 11 - Jan 31	XR400AA	XQ4CW
DL	Germany	May 1 - Apr 30 All 2016 All 2016 All 2016	DM700BURG DF90KWTJ DP65HSC DL40RCE	DF1XC DL2APJ DL5DCL
EI	Ireland	All 2016	EI1916E	EI3GC
G	England	Dec 28 - Jan 24	GB0HNY, GB2HNY, GB4HNY, GB5HNY, GB6HNY, GB8HNY	
GI	N. Ireland	Dec 2016	GB50MU	MNOVFW
HA	Hungary	Dec 8 - Jan 2	HG5XMAS	
HL	Korea	Jan 1 - Jan 27	HL16RI	Bur
JA	Japan	Now- Sep 19 2016	8N1KCJ, 8N2KCJ, 8N3KCJ, 8N5KCJ, and 8N8KCJ	JO3OMA

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JA	Japan	2015 - 2016	90 YEARS OF JARL Jun 12 2015 - Dec 07 2015 8J190Y Nov 09 2015 - Mar 31 2016 8J290Y Jun 12 2015 - Mar 30 2016 8J490Y Sep 01 2015 - May 31 2016 8J590Y Jun 12 2015 - Jun 30 2016 8J690Y Jun 12 2015 - Jun 30 2016 8J790Y Jun 12 2015 - Jun 30 2016 8J890Y Jun 12 2015 - Jun 30 2016 8J890Y Jun 12 2015 - Jun 30 2016 8J890Y Jun 12 2015 - Jun 30 2016 8J890Y		
LZ	Bulgaria	Jan 2016	LZ1012SGM	Bur	
PY	Brazil	Now - Jan 12	ZW400BEL	QRZ	
S5	Slovenia	Dec 4 - Jan 4	S508PMC	S50X	
SP	Poland	Dec 28 - Jan 15 Dec 15 - Jan 31 All 2016 Jan 1 - Jun 30 Jan 1 - Mar 31	3Z16HNY SN3WOSP SN800L SN0WIN HF360JG	SP6IEQ SP3CGK SP4RKZ SP9MZX SP9KAJ	
UA	Russia	Jan 3 - Jan 6	RU55IA	R2DX	
VE	Canada	Dec 13 - Jan 11	XM7100AS	VA7DP	
VK	Australia	Jan 3 - Jan 13	VI2AJ2016	VK2KDP	

Contest, mainly from ARRL Bulletin & WA7BNM

Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party: 0001Z, Dec 19 to 2359Z, Jan 3

Phone Fray: 0230Z-0300Z, Dec 30 CWops Mini-CWT Test: 1300Z-1400Z, Dec 30 and 1900Z-2000Z, Dec 30 and 0300Z-0400Z, Dec 31 AGB New Year Snowball Contest: 0000Z-0100Z, Jan 1 NCCC RTTY Sprint: 0145Z-0215Z, Jan 1 NCCC Sprint: 0230Z-0300Z, Jan 1 NCCC Sprint: 0230Z-0300Z, Jan 1 SARTG New Year RTTY Contest: 0800Z-1100Z, Jan 1 AGCW Happy New Year Contest: 0900Z-1200Z, Jan 1 AGCW VHF/UHF Contest: 1400Z-1700Z, Jan 1 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Jan 1 (432)

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QRP ARCI New Years Sprint: 1500Z-	1800Z, Jan 1
PODXS 070 Club PSKFest: 0000Z-24	00Z, Jan 2
WW PMC Contest: 1200Z, Jan 2 to 12	200Z, Jan 3
Original QRP Contest: 1500Z, Jan 2 t	o 1500Z, Jan 3
ARRL RTTY Roundup: 1800Z, Jan 2 to	o 2400Z, Jan 3
EUCW 160m Contest: 2000Z-2300Z,	Jan 2 and 0400Z-0700Z, Jan 3
Kid's Day Contest: 1800Z-2359Z, Jar	13
ARS Spartan Sprint: 0200Z-0400Z, Ja	an 5

FT4JA JUAN DE NOVA DXPEDITION (Press Release dated December 18th)[from OPDX]:

Hi Friends -- In three months, FT4JA will be on the air. The exact dates of the operation were confirmed both by the authorities and by our skipper. We will be there from March 29th to April 11th, 2016. These dates include the unloading and loading phases.

For nearly a year, we have been working in detail on every aspect of the operation. While it is unrealistic to think that we have everything under control in such an adventure, we make sure to have alternative solutions to overcome any deficiencies while controlling our expenses.

In early January, the 4 crates of equipment will be shipped to Mayotte, which will again be our starting point. Part of the team will be on site a few days before loading and a few days after our return to manage, if necessary, last minute details. For now, we are in the process of finishing testing the hardware and are packing it for transport to optimize the time of loading / unloading. Each well-anticipated subject will be extra time at our disposal there.

Our luck with FT4JA is that we are able to rely on a more robust team than last year with Tromelin and over a period of operation extended by a few days. We will benefit from these two "bonuses" by being able to make more contacts and allow more of you to contact us. Furthermore, we officially welcome EA3NT, Christian, who has joined the team. His many experiences on islands around the world, many with members of the group, will be an asset.

Budget -- Judging by the support already received, the popularity of our operation is palpable and shows tremendous expectations. Many clubs and associations have confirmed their support and we thank them. Other solicited clubs are still studying our request.

Our pilot for Asia, Joe, JJ3PRT, has surrounded himself with a team to mobilize the JA community that is fully invested in the project. Arigatoo! The other countries are not far behind. We record a great generosity on the part of hams around the world and cannot but be touched by this needed mobilization.

Remember that anyone with a donation of ?/\$ 25 or more can automatical y receive confirmation

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of contacts directly to their mailbox. If the pace of donations continues, and in the absence of unforeseen expenses, we are confident to complete the budget of our operation by April.

Bandplan -- Following the change of dates of the expedition to Heard, most wanted DXCC countries # 4 and # 5 will be on the air at the same time! To minimize problems on the bands, we suggested to the VK0EK team to adopt a common band plan to share the segments on the different bands, taking into account the specificities of each region. Each of us will benefit in terms of clarity and efficiency. It is available on our website. Again, all comments are welcome now through our pilot stations.

50 MHz -- The period during which FT4JA expedition will take place is conducive to 6m. We will be in effect during a period of trans-equatorial propagation (TEP), which suggests many QSO on the magic band. We have planned some 50 MHz high-performance equipment including a dedicated station consisting of a DXBeam 6 element Yagi, an Elecraft K3, and an SPE Expert 1.3 KFA amplifier. The team will also include several operators that usually practice DX on this band and therefore know its subtleties.

The 6-meter station will operate mostly in a CW beacon mode ("CQ FT4JA") whose frequency will be published in our plan. As our satellite internet access will be very limited, we cannot monitor the cluster. We will switch to a transmitting position (CW or SSB only) as soon as we hear someone respond. It is a method that has already proven its worth, particularly

on Tromelin. In an attempt to satisfy everyone, and because the technical challenge is very motivating, we also plan to try EME (JT65). Despite limited resources to work stations via the moon, it will be a first from Juan de Nova. It is important for us to satisfy the greatest number, and having real ambitions on 6m is part of the adventure. However, to be consistent with our key objectives, our 6-meter QSOs will be in addition to the rest of the contacts and not to the detriment of our presence on the HF bands.

In conclusion, we wish good luck and good contacts to our friends at VP8STI/SGI and K5P who will open in early January the "party" of the Top 10 DXCC DXpeditions planned for 2016. Soon new information will be provided. Be sure to follow us on our website <<u>http://www.juandenovadx.com</u>>, Facebook, Twitter (@juandenovadx).

P5, NORTH KOREA.

As reported last week, Dom, 3Z9DX, is expected to travel to North Korea sometime before Christmas to continue talks with governmentofficials. Well, Dom has been in Pyongyang since December 16th, and is meeting with telecom officials and other representatives. He did bring his equipment into the country and surprisingly was able to begin an operation (demonstration) early Sunday morning on 21222 kHz. Reports indicate he was very weak. The excerpts from "DXNEWS" and "DX-World" reports that Dom made +350 QSOs during his demonstration. His antenna is on a metal fence post 2m above the ground among

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government high rise buildings. The lowest noise level on 15m was 59+10, and on 20m it was 59+30. Dom was surrounded by a lot of people as he operates (officials coming in and out). Dom points out this operation is only a presentation so it's possible a different QTH will be found for the real activity planned for early next year. His equipment will remain in P5 for his potential future activities in January/February. Dom will return home to Poland on December 22nd (DXNEWS) or Christmas Day (DX-World). This all sounds good for possibly opening the door to amateur radio in P5.

NCDXF

Dear Fellow DXer:

NCDXF helps make DX happen. Between Visalia 2014 and Visalia 2015, NCDXFsponsored DXpeditions put 400,000 QSOs into DXer's logs. During the same period we funded \$175,000 in DXpedition grants. We are proud to be able to offer this enabling financial assistance to bold and talented DXpeditioners who are out there activating the rare ones we all need.

Here is some great news for 2016. Five of the ten most-wanted DXCC entities will be activated during the next six months. These are the most expensive sorts of DXpeditions to mount, so it will not surprise you that NCDXF sponsors each of these teams. We granted a total of \$145,000 to these projects.

The mission of NCDXF is to provide necessary financial support for well-organized DXpeditions to rare, difficult, expensive DXCC entities. We pursue this goal by thoroughly vetting each grant application and ensuring, as much as we can, the success of each DXpedtion or other project we choose to fund. **During our 43 years of operation we have granted well over \$1 million to hundreds of major DXpeditions.**

Help us continue the tradition.

Over 4,000 DXers have contributed to NCDXF.

Join them now.

As most of you are aware, NCDXF is a 501(c)3 entity which means that contributions are tax-deductible for U.S. amateurs. Please consider a contribution to NCDXF when you plan your year-end giving. Also, please consider a bequest to NCDXF whenever you do your estate planning.

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Contributions can easily be made on-line using our secure web server: http://www.ncdxf.org/pages/contribute.html

NCDXF accepts credit cards, PayPal, or Bitcoin. If you prefer to mail a check, our address is:

NCDXF PO Box 2012 Cupertino, CA 95015-2012

Best wishes for great DX in 2016!

VP8SGI/VP8STI DXPEDITION NEWS

Paul, N6PSE, sent out the following on December 21st (from OPDX)

[edited]: In just two short weeks, members of the VP8STI/VP8SGI team will be meeting the Braveheart in Stanley, the Falkland Islands. All of our plans are going very well. We have raised 73% of the funds needed to complete our Dxpedition. We are very grateful for all Foundation, Club and Individual support.

We have updated our QSL page and OQRS will be live as soon as we complete each activation. We will make every effort to upload our logs to Clublog each day. We expect to have challenges in doing so as at 59 degrees South, Southern Thule Island is outside of the Inmarsat BGAN coverage footprint.

The team is very focused and committed to satisfying the need for contacts with South Sandwich and South Georgia. We ask that everyone follow the DX Code of Conduct. We will not work stations that are calling out of turn. We will be in communications with our Chief Pilot each day and we ask you to work with our team of Regional Pilot stations to help us meet the demand for contacts.

We are very excited to be activating the #3 and #8 most wanted DXCC entities on a combined trip. Adding South Georgia on to our itinerary cost us an extra \$120,000. If you have not already donated, won't you please consider a donation? For our US donors, your end of year donations are tax deductible to the Intrepid-DX Group as we are a 501.C.3.

You can view all details of our Dxpedition at: <u>http://www.intrepid-dx.com/vp8</u> Please watch for updates and announcements in The Daily DX, DX-World, DX Coffee and DX News. [ed. as well as the OPDX]

Thank you, and Merry Christmas!

Paul N6PSE - Co-Leader, VP8 Team

Jan 1, 2016 NBR. **678** ZL9, NEW ZEALAND SUBANTARCTIC ISLANDS (Update/Rare IOTA). (From OPDX)

Team Antipodes is scheduled to set sail less than two weeks from now. Cezar is already in New Zealand, and confirms that two full sets of equipment (rigs and antennas) are already with the Department of Conservation office in Invercargill, where the quarantine is scheduled for January 3. All team members will meet in Invercargill on January 2, and in preparation for the quarantine need to treat all clothing and footwear in a trigene solution, a powerful antibacterial. We of us are a little apprehensive that the trigene will affect long term at least some of the materials and metal bits, but there is no way around it. Most of all, we are concerned of all electronic components, including photo/video cameras and laptops, as they will have to be wiped with a cloth soaked in trigene solution too.

If everything goes according to plan and weather cooperates, the team will board Evohe by noon local time on January 4, and attempt landing by mid-afternoon on January 7. It will likely take a few hours before they will be QRV, since landing will require some serious hiking back and forth between the shore and camp. One of their stations will be located inside the Castaway Depot, while the other a few tens of meters away, in a small tent. While the landing and operating permit is very strict in terms of where the radio equipment should be located, the tent allows for some mobility to reduce interference between stations. To reduce it even further, the team will have at their disposal a full set of Dunestar filters.

The list of group and individual donors continues to be updated on a daily basis, and we wish to express our gratitude to everyone who is able to contribute financially to reduce our personal costs. The original budget had to be increased by almost 7%, due to unforeseen costs, to which we had to add another 8% due to the strengthening of the NZD versus the USD during the last few months. Please keep support coming, we do need it dearly!

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a wonderful, Happy and Prosperous New Year 2016!

ADDED NOTE: This operation will count under the new DXCC entity name "New Zealand Subantarctic Islands" (the old name - Auckland and Campbell Islands [ZL9]) for DXCC purposes. A Web page has been activated to provide more details and help collect funds for this operation at:

http://iotahunter.org