

The DX Hog!

A Publication of the Mississippi Valley DX and Contest Club
MVDX/CC • www.mvdxcc.org

Volume 12 Issue 9/10

Sept/October 2011

Mark Your Calendar

- North American Sprint, RTTY, 0000Z-0400Z, Oct 9
- CQ SA SSB Contest, 0000Z, Oct 15 to 2400Z, Oct 16
- Worked All Germany Contest, 1500Z, Oct 15 to 1459Z, Oct 16
- CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Oct 29 to 2400Z, Oct 30

MVDX/CC Officers

- **President - Eric, WØTT**
- **Vice President - John, K2VV**
- **Secretary - John, WØNZG**
- **Treasurer - George, ABØRX**

October 13th Club Meeting

The October 13th (2nd Thursday) meeting program will be a video of the VP8THU / VP8GEO expedition to South Sandwich and South Georgia, and there is at least one DX'pedition support to consider. In addition the current (1977) club constitution will be circulated as updates may need to be made..

If you want John to field check your cards you must first read the **DXCC Rules** carefully on the ARRL website. You must also have the necessary paperwork filled out and completed as per the rules.

MVDXCC meetings are held at 7:00 at the Thornhill Library Auditorium located at 12863 Willowyck Drive in Creve Coeur, MO.

How long does it take a Suffering DXer to become a True Believer?

by: KQ0B - Michael W Elliott

In the course of pursuing the 5BWAZ Award it all depends on the dedication and drive of the HAM. It is sometimes a lonely journey that keeps you up all night or sitting by the radio waiting for a Dx-pediton to start or be heard. It took me roughly 34 years to realize my dream with countless schedules, emails, Cluster alerts and oh the most important thing – propagation cooperating at the right time. I got my initial 5Band WAZ Certificate #1603, November 7, 2008, with 199 zones confirmed. However I was still lacking Zone 2 on 10 meters and that proved to be a difficult contact to tackle. The lack of propagation to the North East into Labrador proved to be a test of wills but on July 9, 2011 the magical 200th zone was worked.

You see, since 2008 I have been seriously chasing that elusive Zone 2 on 10 meters. I would have settled for any mode but my wish was a CW contact for my last zone. Now it is no accident that the man who gave me that 200th Zone was none other than VO2FF – Daniel. We have been checking the magical 10 meter band and keeping up with one another over the years. What made it really difficult is that VO2FF's free time only allows him to get on the air on weekends. It was not surprising that I have worked VO2FF on 160, 80, 40, 20 and the WARC bands over the years.

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MVDX/CC Meeting Minutes for September 2011

MVDX/CC Meeting Minutes for September 8, 2011

The September 2011 MVDX/CC meeting was called to order by President Eric, WØTT at 7pm. Eric asked that members introduce themselves with their name and call. We had 23 HOGS present including WØTT, WØNZG, K2VV, NOØL, KØBX, KØGSV, KØJPL, KØARY, WOØC, WBØSND, NØHIO, KDØBXU, KØHHB, WØEWM, NIØC, AAØFT, KØJFI, NVØR, WAØIDS, WØNFS, KØHRM, WAØJCO and NØAX. We had one visitor this month, Joe, KDØEFW.

We did not have a treasury report this month. Treasurer George, ABØRX was setting up his portable station at Taum Sauk Missouri getting ready for the VHF QSO Party.

There was a great quantity of QSL cards for sorters available at the rear of the meeting room. Anyone interested in spending approximately three hours per month (on average) helping with sorting duties please contact Rich, KØGSV at G@zeroburo.org

The Halloween Hamfest will be held October 29th at Kirkwood Community Center. A motion was made and seconded for the club to purchase a table so members will be able to bring radio equipment to sell. Tickets in advance are \$3 each or 4 for \$10, tickets at the door are 2 for \$10. Your admission ticket is a prize ticket.

A motion was made and seconded to contribute \$250 to the Malpelo 2012 (HKØNA) Dxpedition.

The SW MO members contributed \$100 to the Banaba T33, Tuvalu T2, W. Kiribati T30 and Vitu Levu Island 3D2/F (Fiji) Dxpedition. There will be 8 weeks of operation with two operators during January and February.

Announcements:

- Our October club meeting will be held at Thornhill Library on the second Thursday, the 13th. Doors open at 6 and the meeting starts at 7PM. Visit the club web site [www.mvdxcc.org] for a map showing the location of the Library. Some club members meet for dinner at the Train Wreck Saloon at 5PM, all are welcome.
- Eric, WØTT has obtained a copy of the original club constitution. It was decided that the document needs to be brought up to date as there have been many changes since it was written in 1977.
- Joe, KØBX announced that he has officially retired from the airplane factory. Congratulations Joe.
- Merle, WØEWM told us about antenna work at his QTH. He said his consultant for the work was Tom, KØHHB. The result is a new 40 meter delta loop that performs better than the antenna it replaced.
- Contact John, K2VV if you have a topic you would like to present at a future meeting. Currently on tap for future meetings are possible presentations on DXpeditions, Picture tours of members shacks (I understand that club officers shacks will be first), PSK operation and [insert your presentation here] !!!

Club president Eric, WØTT gave a presentation of the WØ DX Convention held in Leavenworth Kansas last July. Attendees from our club were WØTT, KØBX, K2VV, KA2CUP and NAØY. There were two rooms where simultaneous presentations were given, each presentation lasting 45 minutes. This allowed each presentation to be attended at different times. The consensus of our members who attended was that the convention was very worthwhile. There was some discussion regarding the possibility of having a future WØ DX Convention in the Saint Louis area, perhaps in two or three years.

Best Regards, John – WØNZG

September Birthdays

Happy birthday - Hogs!

- NE9R-----Glen----5th.
- K9DD-----Jim----7th.
- K0JFI-----Jay----10th.
- N0AZZ-----Fred---15th.
- N0YR-----Mark---19th.
- W0ZH-----Myron--21st.
- KC0STQ---Tom----29th.
- K0HRM---Hugh---30th.

October Birthdays

Happy birthday - Hogs!

- KD0CIU----Wayne----4th.
- WA0JCO--Bill-----7th.
- K0FM-----Frank-----16th.
- W0HBH---Bill-----19th.
- K4VX-----Lew-----21st.

News from the Joplin area and MVDX/CC SWMO

from Mike, K0AZ

Well the biggest news from down here was the Joplin hamfest. It was great as usual with a near full house. The impact of the tornado was felt as FEMA had taken over the North side of the facility where the hamfest normally is held. So the fest was moved to the South side of the Center. From the attendance you would not have known we were in a disaster area.

One of the things I did at the fest was get some cards checked. Bill Morgan was there checking cards. Bill Wheeler of Collins collector fame was with him as usual. My application was for DXCC 80 meters, 30 meters, 5BDXCC and endorsements to take my CW and Phone to over 300 each. I also had some good 6M DX cards in there as well as 2 cards for 2 meters from EU Russia and Slovenia.

Cliff Ahrens and Dale Bagley manned the ARRL table and I got to shake hands with them and chat with Dale for a minute or two. He knew about the SW hogs and we talked about our little group a bit.

The weather has pretty well stopped most antenna work that I know of. I am looking forward to getting up a new antenna for 160 and 80 and hope it does as good as my old sloper did. It's getting close to that time of year to be watching for DX on Top Band.

The SW group will be putting together a donation to the South Pacific DX'pedition that is planned for January 2012 which will include a stop at T33 Banaba. This donation will be made on behalf of MVDXCC and I will get the hogs LOGO sent in to them as well for inclusion on their contributor or club list.

That is about it for now. 73, Mike K0AZ



How long does it take a Suffering DXer to become a True Believer?

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Once, I heard VO2FF on 10 meters in the fall of 2010 but he did not hear me. I have seen the SFI come up with good A and K numbers but the propagation from Midwest USA to the North East into Labrador, Canada produced no luck. I sent numerous emails to expeditions for Zone 2 on 10 meters only to be told no opening was available for my path even though the DX station was being heard by Europe and NA East Coast. While I thought Zone 22 on 80 meters CW was hard to work it was nothing compared to Zone 2 on 10 meters. In the words of Dr. Cass (WA6AUD) from those bygone years, I WAS a suffering DXer, wondering if the sun-spots would ever return and allow me to work this zone.



Finally, on July 9, 2011 I worked FP/VA2WA on 10 meters and thought wow I should finally be able to work zone 2 on this band. But the DX gods had other thoughts; conditions into Zone 2 would be different. That was early in the morning; 1300Z. Later that day I checked the cluster and saw VO2FF had worked some stations in the 9th US call district around 1300utc but now it was 1600utc and I believed 10 meters had probably folded. I checked and saw VO2FF was still on the air so gave him a quick call on 28.010 MHz. After I stopped calling all I could hear was the sound of someone tuning up on the frequency. Their signal was peaking S7 covering up the possible return of my prey. As I had done on so many prior occasions

and similar situations, I sent my call again and waited. Such is the life of a suffering DXer. After what seemed like an eternity, I heard someone come back to MY call. It was VO2FF and we exchanged reports. We proceeded to work one another four times on that frequency at power levels of 100, 50, 25, and down to 5 watts with decent reports. And then it was over. This journey had been completed and the dream realized. In an instant I was transformed from a suffering DXer to one of the Deserving. But as all DXers know, there is always another challenge; but that journey is for another day.

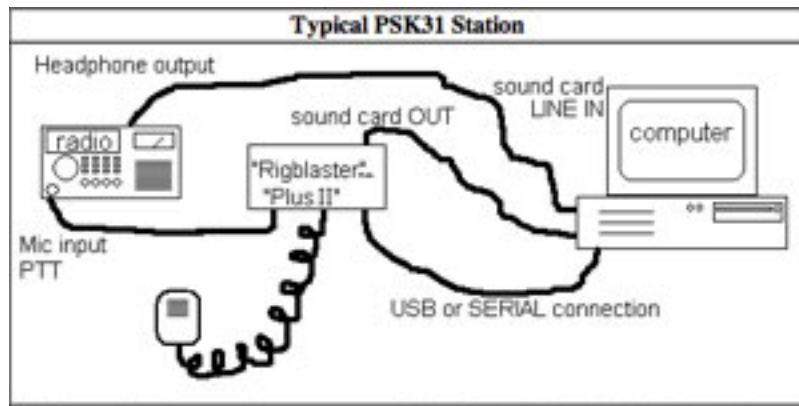
I would like to thank VO2FF - Daniel for hanging in there with me over the years. While Zone 2 on 10 meters is no special deal for most folks on this side of the pond, it was the hardest 1700 miles I have ever tried to work a station.

Many times I have been tempted to try anyone in Zone 2 but I stuck with VO2FF, who I can call a good guy and now a friend.

For anyone chasing the 5Band WAZ Award they realize this is a marathon, not a sprint. Since only 853 Hams before me have achieved this award, this IS a small fraternity, and upon attainment you realize IT as a special moment and achievement to remember. My next goal is to finish WAZ on 9 bands; all via CW. I am well on my way but hope it does not take another 34 years to complete – but then again it will give me something to chase on those cold winter nights when suffering DXers become true Believers.

To PSK or Not to PSK

from Paul, K0JPL (Just PSK Learning)



Recently Bruce, KØARY , put me onto a PSK program (DigiPan). It is a free one and you can download very easily. I'm amazed by the number of stations on that mode. I only run about 40 watts and usually hang out on 20 meters. (Receiver set to 14.070).

So far I have worked Saudi Arabia, Asiatic Russia, and many Europeans. Neat thing with the DigiPan program is that you can monitor several signals at one time. I have watched up to a dozen QSO's going on at one time.

If you see something you want to call...just click on the signal and you're ready to go. You can also set up around 10 Macros for messages, calls, equipment, etc.

I usually turn the gain off on the rig so I don't have to listen to the signals, just watch the screen. I know there are dozens of digital programs out there but, this one works GREAT for me. Also, program has a detailed Help button.

MVDX/CC DX Support Budget Details • January - August 2011

2011 Date	DX Entity	Amount Discussed	Amount Approved	Comments
5-Jan	NCDXF	\$200.00	\$0.00	Approved annual contribution to NCDXF
5-Jan	2011 Budget	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	Approved 2011 \$ target for Dxpediton support
5-Jan	Spratley Island	\$200.00	\$0.00	Approved donation to Spratley Island
5-Jan	Spratley Island	\$200.00	\$200.00	Reimbursed K0KL / Spratley Island Dxpediton
2-Feb	None	\$0.00	\$0.00	No meeting due to snowstorm
2-Mar	NCDXF	\$250.00	\$250.00	Approved Bronze support level \$250 year
2-Mar	CY0 Sable Island	\$250.00	\$250.00	Approved donation to CY0
2-Mar	Spratley Island	\$0.00	\$0.00	Confirmed \$200 donation to Spratley Island
7-Apr	T32 Kirimati	\$150.00	\$150.00	Approved T32 Kirimati (Christmas Island)
11-May	No activity	\$0.00	\$0.00	No Dxpediton decisions this month
8-Jun	J480 Lighthouse	\$0.00	\$0.00	Discussion only
8-Jun	C21 Nauru	\$0.00	\$0.00	Discussion only
8-Jun	VK9 Lord Howe	\$0.00	\$0.00	Discussion only
8-Jun	South Sudan	\$0.00	\$0.00	OH2BH white paper - no DXCC ok = no support
14-Jul	S. Sudan ST0R	\$200.00	\$200.00	Approved donation to ST0R ~ club logo on website
14-Jul	T32C Kirimati	\$100.00	\$0.00	Approved support only if different op than 7 APR
11-Aug	No activity	\$0.00	\$0.00	No Dxpediton decisions this month
Total	Expenditures	Y T D	\$1,050.00	Includes annual NCDXF contribution

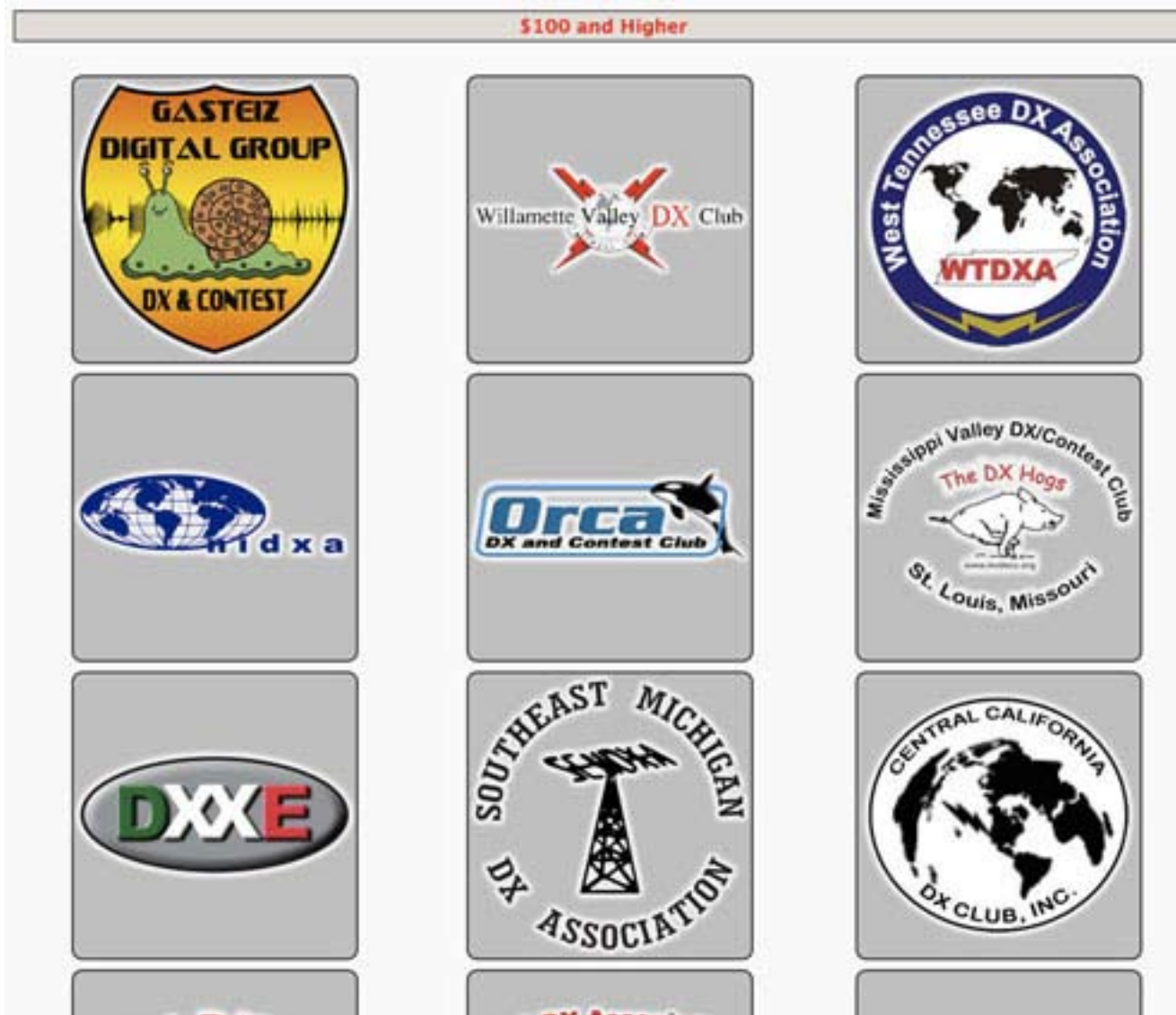
The DX Hog is a monthly publication of MVDX/CC



Contents of this newsletter are provided by members and Internet resources. To contribute to this news letter please Email your information to Steve at w0sjs@arrl.net

Southern SudaY 2001 DX'pedition • \$100 Donors

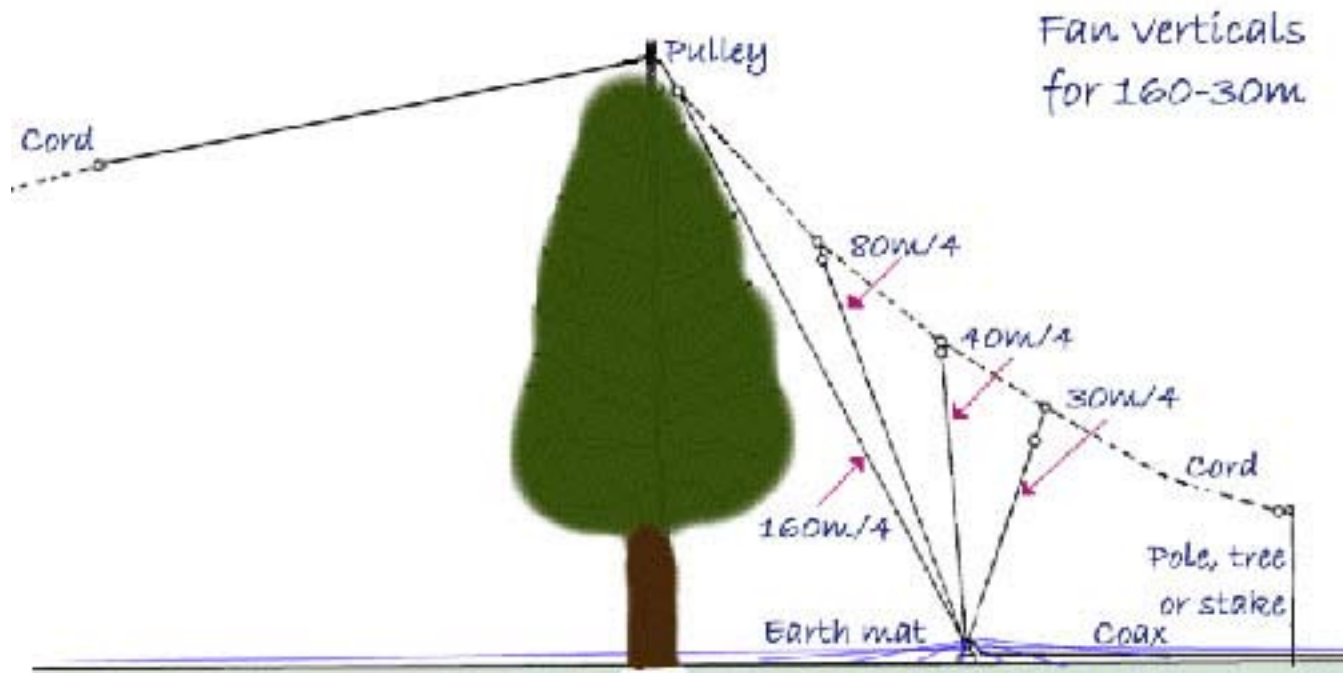
MV DX/CC's new logo represents our contribution!



Here we see our new logo with others from the recent Southern SudaY 2011 DX'pedition Donors Page, Congrats! Hogs!

ZL2IBF's 160 Meter Fan Verticals

I'm planning a simpler array of quarter wave LF verticals sharing a common feeder, earth mat and tree.



The design is based on a receiving antenna shown in The Radiotron Designers Handbook of 1953.

The 160m vertical will be an inverted L as even our tallest trees are not quite 40m - more like 20 -30m at a guess. The earth mat will be a combination of deer fencing and wire radials. The antennas will be separated by a convenient distance along the cord - a few metres each I guess (I'll have to lay the lines out on the ground to set it up). I could use two cords from the top, alternating the verticals to spread them laterally as well as along the cord, but the single cord design looks easier.

I'm hoping the magic of resonance will effectively feed one vertical per band, although on 40m the topband vertical will accept some RF so the match may need adjustment on 40m and the pattern may be high angle - in which case I'll just have to try something different (an L-match/low-pass filter feeding the 160m vertical maybe, a high pass filter for the 40m vertical, a remote relay or a separate 40m array).

Editors Note: Something to consider!

WOR1's PolyPhaser Setup

from Price, WOR1

Hi Steve,

I have attached some pictures of my PolyPhaser lightning arresters, my 80 foot tower, one of the 3 guy poles and the beams at 80 ft for 20, 90 ft for 15 and 100 ft for 10 meters. The tower is guyed with PhillyStrand 6700lb strength. I put the tower up in 1968 and it has been through winds that exceeded 90 to 100 MPH. I shunt feed the tower for 160 meters.

73..Price WOR1



Pictured at the left is the switching and PolyPhaser box located outside the house.



To the right we see inside the box pictured above for details of the connections and switching setup.

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W0RI's PolyPhaser Setup

(continued from page 8)

Pictured here is the complete setup. Please excuse the patch-work pictures but the Editor did the best he could! Hi.



What's Coming Up - DX on the air!

(for complete listings visit <http://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html>)

- **9H3KX** Malta: By DL8KX fm Gozo I (EU-023, MIA MM-004, WLOTA 0046); HF; CW SSB; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct • Oct 8 - 14
- **H40KJ** Temotu: By SP5DRH fm Pigeon I (OC-065); 160 80m focus, also 17 15m; CW RTTY; QSL also OK via SP7DQR, Buro or direct • Oct 8 - 21
- **EA8** Canary Is.: By DL3FCG as TBD fm La Orotava, Tenerife I (AF-004, DIE S-012, WLOTA 1276); 80-10m; CW SSB + digital; QSL also OK via DL3FCG, Buro or direct • Oct9 - 17
- **TX3T** Tahiti: By UT5UY FO5QB UX0HX UZ1HZ US0KW UU4JMG UX0LL RK7A UA7A RA6LBS fm Papeete; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY • Oct 16 - 19
- **E51NOU** South Cook Is.: By N7OU fm Rarotonga I (OC-013); 80-10m; CW; spare time operation Oct 17 - Nov 7
- **3XY1D** Guinea: By DL7UFR DL4WK DK7LX SP3DOI SP3CYY DL7DF; 5 stations; yagis + verticals; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct • Oct 18 - Nov 1
- **EA6** Balearic Is.: By DL4ABO as EA6/DL4ABO; focus on 30m, CW; QRP • Oct 19 - 24
- **TX7M** Marquesas: By UT5UY FO5QB UX0HX UZ1HZ US0KW UU4JMG UX0LL RK7A UA7A RA6LBS fm Nuku Hiva; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY • Oct 19 - Nov 1
- **VK9CX** Cocos (Keeling): By DJ7ZG DL7AFS • Oct 19 - Nov 9
- **3DA0** Swaziland: By ZS6AYU as 3DA0GF and ZS6BZP as 3DA0HC; 40-10; 3DA0GF using CW and 3DA0HC using SSB • Oct 21 - 24
- **ZK2V** Niue: By GM3WOJ • Oct 21 - Dec 31
- **A71DLH** Uatar: By DL1BDF DK2DO DL2NTC DB4XN DF4HR DG3HT; all bands; CW SSB + digital; Lufthansa Amateur Radio Club • Oct 22 - 29
- **J45PO** Dodecanese: By ON4PO • Oct 23 - Nov 9
- **3D2T** Figi: By NJ7N NL8F VK4AN VK4FW fm Nadi; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY PSK31 • Oct 25 - Nov 1
- **TL0CW** Central African Republic: By DK7PE; focus on 160 80m CW • Oct 26 - Nov 3
- **TU2T** Ivory Coast: By I1HJT I2YSB IK2CIO IK2CKR IK2DIA IK2HKT IK2RZP; QSL also OK via IK2CIO Buro • Oct 27 - Nov 11
- **8Q7SO** Maldives: By JK1KSB fm Mirihi I (AS-013, MJ63jo); 80-10m; CW SSB RTTY PSK31; holiday style operation; QSL OK via JARL Buro or direct • Oct 28 - Nov 4