

Northwest Indiana DX CLUB

Volume 11, Issue 4

April 2023

President's Corner

We had a nice meeting on March 18th.

Next one will be in June most likely.

If you have something you would like to present, just let me know.

Happy DX! Bands are open quite a bit.

73
John W3ML
Good DXing!

"Working the World from the Black Hole"

NWI DX Club Website

<http://nwidxclub.weebly.com/>



Don't forget Steve Mollman is our QSL Card Checker.

DXCC Card Checking is available by appointment and may be available at meetings. E-Mail kd9hl@arrl.net for an appointment or to make other arrangements.

<i>Northwest Indiana DX Club Officers and Staff</i>			
President	W3ML	John Poindexter	w3ml.ohn@gmail.com
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ARRL Card Checker	KD9HL	Steve Mollman	kd9hl@ARRL.net

Reminder, the NWIDX Club has a club call W9NWI.

The call is available to members for use during contests, special events, Field Day, etc. To schedule dates for its use, contact the trustee, Steve Mollman – KD9HL. kd9hl@arrrl.net

QSL cards are available.

Notice:

Articles in the Northwest Indiana DX Club Newsletter (except for those separately copyrighted) may be reprinted, provided proper credit is given.

NCDXF International Beacon Project

Status Update

SINCE THE DELIVERY OF VERSION 2 OF THE controller and refreshing all the hardware for each of the 18 sites, the beacons overall have functioned well. Listening reports have increased to cover more bands for all beacons with the rise of sunspot activity.

A graph of beacons heard shows a period of about six months in early 2022, when all 18 beacons were on the air.

In June 2022, 5Z4B stopped transmitting and hasn't been heard from since. Sadly, the operator Max, 5Z4MR, became a SK in November. ARSK is now looking for a new site and operator to host the 5Z beacon.

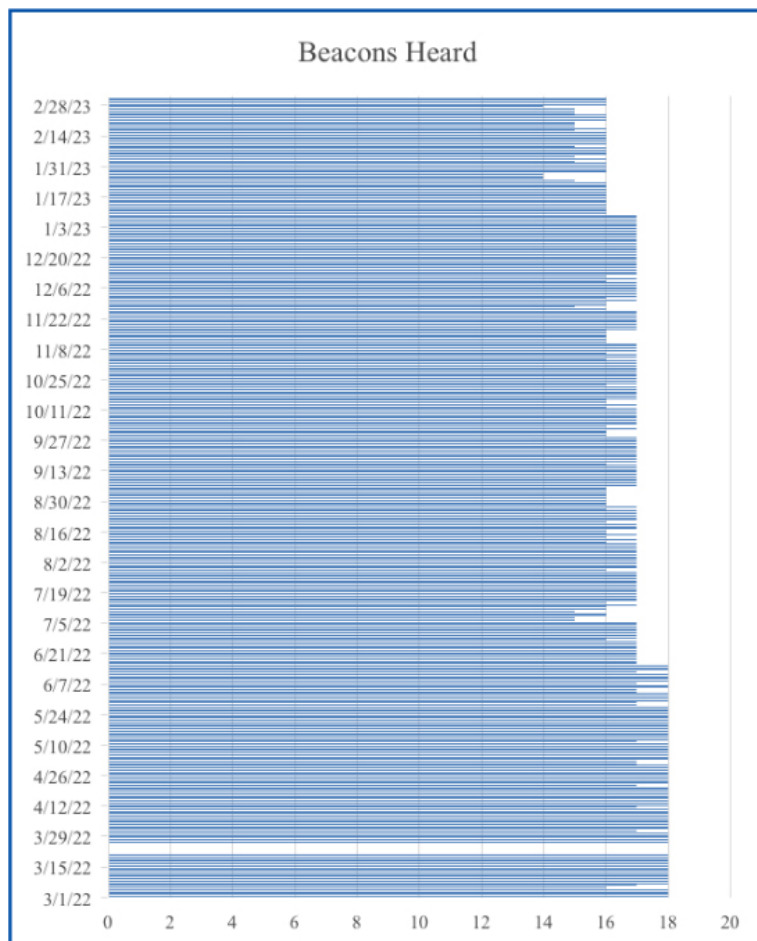
In July 2022 the ZS6DN radio failed with an open circuit. Dr. Gary Immelman, ZS6YI, was able to trace down the fault and repair the radio.

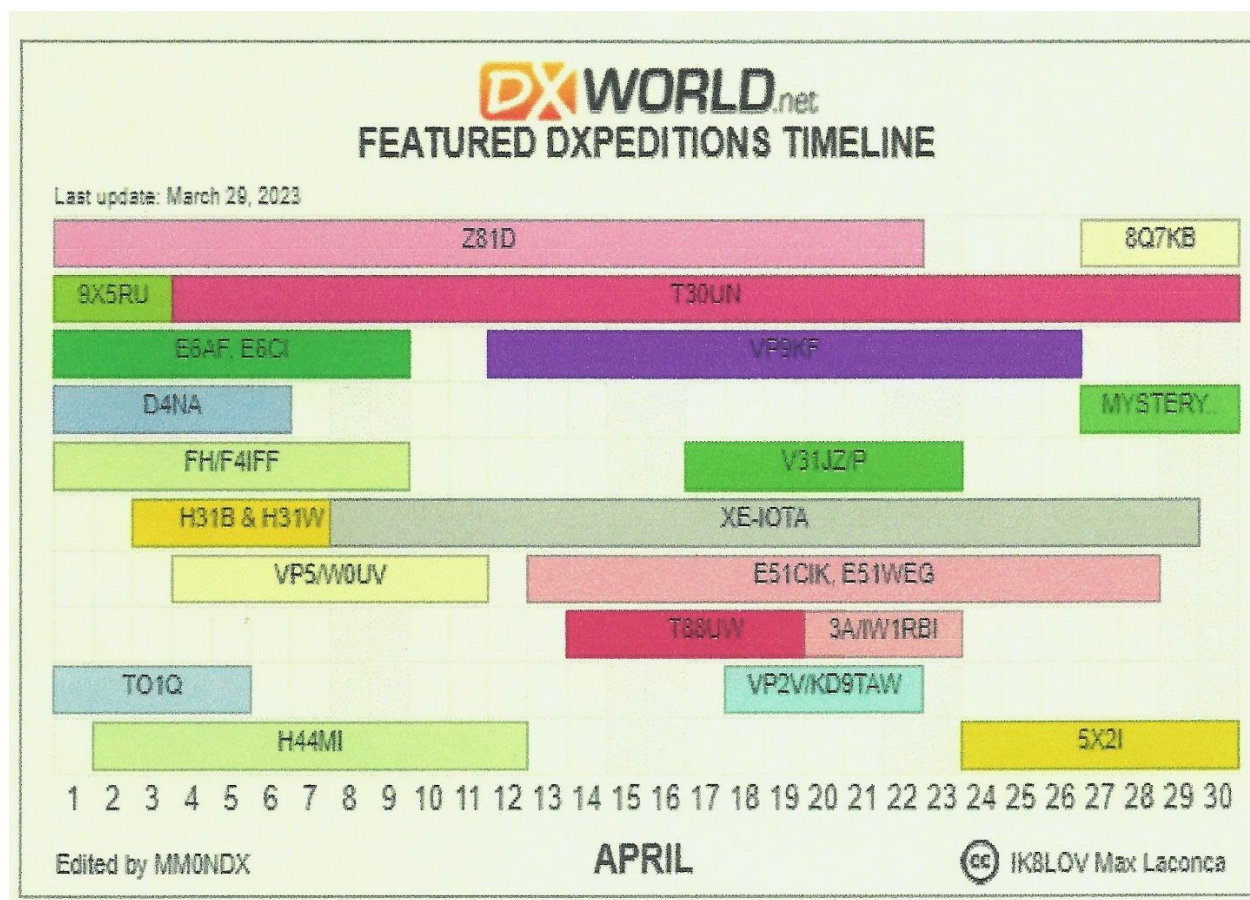
At the start of 2023, ZL6B stopped transmitting. Stephen, ZL1ANY, is working on repairs to the 10M portion of the antenna.

Various beacons are off on contest weekends.

All the operators take great care of the beacons – maintaining them, making sure the selected site is still suitable, and checking for reports of failure. We thank each of the operators for their dedication.

We especially want to thanks Peter, VE3SUN, for the attention he pays to the entire beacon network, several useful pieces of software, being the IARU rep for the IBP, the beacon web page, and keeping the conversation going with the operators.





The Question of the Month

(The correct answer is at the end of the Newsletter)

Which one of the four authors of the popular WSJT-X digital program was awarded a Nobel Prize?

- A. K1JT-Joe Taylor**
- B. G4WJS-Bill Somerville**
- C. K9AN-Steve Franke**
- D. IV3NWW-Nicolangelo Palermo**

The DX Mentor

A New Podcast for DX'ers

Whether you're a fan of podcasts or not there is a new one that may be worth watching. **The DX Mentor** has been operating since January and specializes in DX. A new podcast is issued about every two weeks. So far, they have had a variety of subjects including interviews with CQ magazine editors, tips on attaining DXCC and the Honor Roll and interviews with DXpedition participants.

The latest (March 16) is an interview with KO8SCA-Adrian Ciuperca who discusses the recent 3Y0J DXpedition to Bouvet Island. Adrian was one of the operators on that undertaking.



Adrian Ciuperca-KO8SCA

This DXpedition was one of the most widely published and anticipated operations in recent memory. There has been a lot of praise, criticism, misinformation, and questions about this DXpedition and Adrian addresses the issues in the frank and honest manner

The DX Mentor podcast can be accessed either on **Apple Podcasts** or **Spotify for Podcasters**.

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/dx-mentor-special-announcement-3y0j/id1659108539?i=1000604000643>

<https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/bill-salyers/episodes/DX-Mentor-Special-Announcement-3Y0J-e20bts7>

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Bouvet-3Y0J

[For those who may have missed the last messages from Bouvet the following recap is offered:](#)

[FEBRUARY 16 @ 1400Z]

Goodbye Bouvet! The anchor is up. The engine is on. Marama is sailing away from Bouvet and heading to Cape Town, South Africa. Six 3Y0J Team members bid the island farewell on deck. The rest are below deck in their bunks preparing for what is reported to be two days of rough seas.

We activated Bouvet Island in extremely difficult conditions! Now that we leave Bouvet with mixed feelings, we also know that we did what we could to get Bouvet on the air.

Four members went ashore at Bouvet on 31 January in good conditions to set up the climbing route and install an unmanned zodiac rope system between a buoy and the beach, so that we could land equipment also in rough surf. During the day the surf increased, and the extraction of the team members was aborted, and we were thus stranded on Bouvet late in the evening. During 3 nights we slept outdoors under the open sky in cold and difficult conditions with little or no supplies. We prepared a simple emergency shelter on the island where we stayed (tarp). During the second day we got some supplies in a risky zodiac operation in high swell. We lost several objects in the surf and punctured the zodiac. The conditions on the beach were terrible. Due to the coming storm, we evacuated back to Marama on day 4.

Despite this, we decided to go ahead and scale down DXped. We could not fight against Bouvet, but had to adjust to the weather and go ashore when Bouvet allowed us. We called it “Picolite DXped” as pictures will show you we operated with 100W from a single tent, no chairs and no table, 60m coax, no amp, simple antennas, small generator etc. Our 2 Elecraft K3 radios were stacked on top of a bucket turned upside down, and we sat on the ground operating. All our wet clothes were dried outdoor on the rocks, and we had very limited heating. We went through a storm of 55 knots, but our tent had no problem with the wind force! The spider poles and the DX Engineering antennas also survived the storm w/o any issue.

We only took the equipment we needed, 620 kg in total including supplies. All our supplies to the island were via a rope attached to a buoy 100 meters from shore to beach. All objects were hooked to the line and floated to shore by team members pulling the rope. We named it the gym. The team members also went ashore in survival suits hooked to the line and floating to shore. What an experience!!

Radio Operation: Pileup was difficult as our signals were weak. We had good reception and very often we called 3 to 5 times to log a qso. Many DXers called us but couldn't hear us, how frustrating! We focused on fewer bands to maximize ATNO and looking at the stats we achieved 19,000 QSOs and 50% unique calls. And many dupes! Many are satisfied, but some are also disappointed by the performance of either the team or the DQRMers. We had issues with the FT8 due to we did not have any device to sync against, and our clock was 14 seconds off – which meant we at some times were TX odd, while we thought it was even.

As for Bouvet, there is no guarantee at all, whether you use two helicopters or zodiac! We could have wanted to make more contacts, but safety was and will always be more important than trying to push our limits in a risky environment. In the coming months, you will be invited to hear more of our stories at conventions and in articles. (Full videos later)

Ken LA7GIA updates with the following info:

We will start sailing tomorrow morning. We might take a tour around the island if wx is not too bad. All team is on board and equipment strapped for sailing to Cape Town. There are just some small items to strap inside the cabins. We might operate /MM. Our estimated ETA in Cape Town is 23 Feb. We plan to stay one night there and have a team dinner. ALL log checks should be directed to QSL Manager M0OXO. No team members have access to the log. They will not answer any requests.

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EMT SPEAKER
At
MARCH MEETING
By
Jerry Hess, W9KTP

At our March meeting we were fortunate to have Dale Lanham from Northwest Health as our guest speaker. Dale is the Regional EMS Coordinator for Northwest Health. He covers Porter, LaPorte and Starke counties. Dale has been an EMT for over 40 years. At our meeting, Dale demonstrated CPR and the use of a defibrillator.

First, he demonstrated the basic steps in CPR for an adult.

1. Shake the person's shoulder and ask if he is OK.
2. If no response, check if person is breathing. If not call 911 or have someone call 911 and begin CPR.
3. Place one hand on top of the other.
4. Place hands on chest between the nipples.
5. Begin compressions, approximately 120 per minute. The rate follows the beat from the song "Stayin Alive".
6. Check for breathing. If not, keep doing compressions until professionals arrive.



Second, he demonstrated the use of a AED (Automated External Defibrillator). The unit is programmed to instruct the user what to do.

1. Put the adhesive pads on the chest as instructed.
2. The unit will monitor the person's pulse and breathing and possibly instruct you to stop CPR. Keep your hands away and it will shock the person.
3. After the shock you will be instructed to continue CPR.
4. Keep following instructions from the AED until help arrives.

Remember that if a person isn't breathing, he isn't getting oxygen to his brain and probably will die. Don't just stand there and do nothing.

Many thanks to Dale for taking the time to attend our meeting. He answered many questions from the group. Great session!

73's,
Jerry

Links sent in by members

<https://solar.w5mmw.net/> Current Solar conditions for chasing DX.

<https://readcomicsbook.com/comic/archie-s-ham-radio-adventure/issue-full> Archie Ham Radio Comic Books

Digital Library of Amateur Radio Publications (Free!)

<https://archive.org/details/dlarc>

DXMAPS 4.2 - QSO/SWL real time information

<https://www.dxmaps.com/spots/mapg.php?Lan=&Frec=&ML=&Map=&HF=&DXC=ING2&GL=>

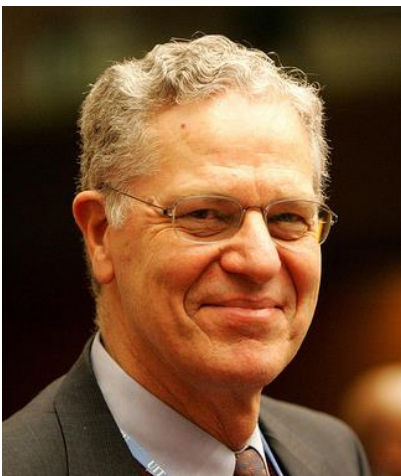
A 1943 article from the American Journal of Psychology entitled "The Learning of Radiotelegraphy" which will prove to you that our government will fund anything, even when we're on war footing. Enjoy.

<https://morsecode.ninja/files/The-Learning-of-Radiotelegraphic-Code.pdf>

Question of the Month Answer:

Which one of the four authors of the popular WSJT-X digital program was awarded a Nobel Prize?

A. K1JT-Joe Taylor



In 1993, K1JT was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics for his discovery, with Russell Hulse, of a new type of pulsar, a discovery that has opened up new possibilities for the study of gravitation.

Joe Taylor first obtained his amateur radio license as a teenager, which led him to the field of radio astronomy. Now assigned the call sign K1JT, he had previously held the callsigns K2ITP, WA1LXQ, W1HFV, and VK2BJX (the latter in Australia).

His amateur radio accomplishments have included mounting an 'expedition' in April 2010 to use the Arecibo Radio Telescope to conduct moon bounce with Amateurs around the world using voice, Morse code, and digital communications.

He has been active in developing several computer programs and communications protocols, including WSPR and WSJT ("Weak Signal/Joe Taylor"), the popular software package and protocol suite that utilizes computer-generated messages in conjunction with radio transceivers to communicate over long distances with other amateur radio operator

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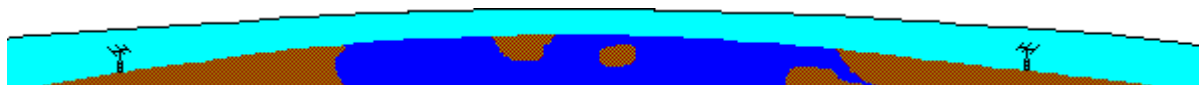
FOR SALE ITEMS

If you have ham items for sale, email me a list along with prices and contact information. I will put it in the next newsletter.

Let me know when an item is no longer for sale so I can remove it.

For Sale items will be removed from the newsletter after 3 months.

I want to thank those that have been sending in articles for the newsletter. All items are appreciated.



Until Next Time,
73

John
W3ML

<http://nwidclub.weebly.com/>



DX

