

# Northwest Indiana DX CLUB

Volume 12, Issue 6

June 2024

## President's Corner

Next meeting will be July 12<sup>th</sup> at the Sugar Bowl in Michigan City at Noon.

Presentation will be on a Moon Bounce.

The Challenge Report is obviously not going to be reported until LoTW is fixed.

73  
John W3ML  
Good DXing!

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Meeting Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>  
12:00 Noon  
Sugar Bowl Michigan City

## "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](mailto:kd9hl@arrl.net) for an appointment or to make other arrangements.

## NORTHWEST INDIANA DX CLUB OFFICERS AND STAFF

|                      |                      |  |
|----------------------|----------------------|--|
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| ARRL Card Checker    | Steve Mollman KD9HL  | <a href="mailto:kd9hl@arrl.net">kd9hl@arrl.net</a>           |
| DX Alert Coordinator | Bill South N4SV      | <a href="mailto:wbs099@yahoo.com">wbs099@yahoo.com</a>       |

### **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@arrl.net](mailto:kd9hl@arrl.net)

QSL cards are available.

## **Notice:**

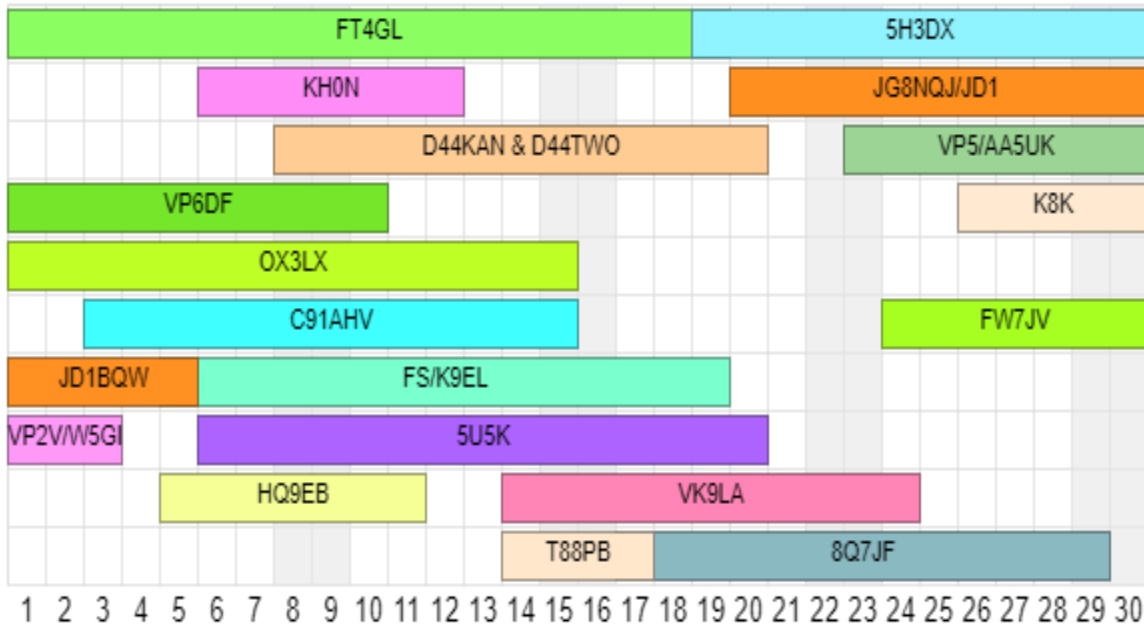
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**DX WORLD.net**  
**FEATURED DXPEDITIONS TIMELINE**

Last update: May 31, 2024



Edited by MM0NDX

**JUNE**

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Curiosity of [https://www.hamradiotimeline.com/timeline/dxw\\_timeline\\_1\\_1.php](https://www.hamradiotimeline.com/timeline/dxw_timeline_1_1.php)

## Is LoTW a thing of the past?

**This is the last thing said about LoTW. Will it ever come back? Have we lost all credits? Is the data really secure?**

**Members want answers.**

**Updated 5/22/2024**

We are continuing to address a serious incident involving access to our network and systems. Several services, such as Logbook of The World® and the ARRL Learning Center, are affected.

We have heard from many LoTW® users, asking about the status of the service and its data. This is not an LoTW server issue, and LoTW data is secure.

## 5U5K from Niger on 8-20 June

Operate mainly SSB, CW and digital modes - FT8 and FT4 (using MSHV in multistream mode), as well as RTTY – on 160-6 metres.

**BAND PLAN 5U5K**

| BAND | 160   | 80    | 60    | 40    | 30     | 20     | 17     | 15     | 12     | 10     | 6      |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| CW   |       | 3.510 | 5.353 | 7.020 | 10.120 | 14.010 | 18.085 | 21.010 | 24.901 | 28.010 | 50.105 |
| SSB  |       |       |       | 7.150 |        | 14.240 | 18.150 | 21.265 | 24.975 | 28.520 | 50.115 |
| RTTY |       |       |       |       |        | 14.084 |        | 21.084 |        | 28.084 |        |
| FT8  | 1.843 | 3.570 | 5.357 | 7.077 | 10.145 | 14.084 | 18.090 | 21.084 | 24.911 | 28.084 | 50.313 |
| FT4  |       | 3.570 | 5.357 | 7.077 | 10.145 | 14.084 | 18.090 | 21.084 | 24.911 | 28.084 | 50.333 |

CW RX UP 1-3

SSB RX UP 5-10

RTTY RX UP 1-2

FT8 MSHV RX 200-3000 Khz

## Ops Needed for Peter I Island DXpedition

**Several sources are reporting that Ken, LA7GIA, is stating the following:**

We are looking for more SSB/CW operators for the Peter I Island DXpedition. The dates are confirmed from January 28 to February 26, 2027. We have received entry permission from the Norwegian Polar Institute and are currently negotiating the boat contract. This DXpedition team will be made up of 19 operators; currently we are 10 operators. We are now looking for 3 or 4 additional operators for this expedition in a short time. Please contact us at [admin@3y0.no](mailto:admin@3y0.no). This is an expensive DXpedition with a high participation fee, duration of 30 days + travel time.....

Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW

Editor of the Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin (OPDX - DXer's Tool of Excellence)

President of the "Northern Ohio DX Association" (NODXA)

DX Advisor for the "Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

Past ARRL Assistant Director of the Great Lakes Division (1996-2022)

Sysop of the "Basic Amateur Radio Frequency BBS" ([BARF80.ORG](http://BARF80.ORG))



## ARRL Systems Service Disruption

From the ARRL-Updated 5/31/2024

Our phone system has been returned to service. ARRL may be reached at 1-860-594-0200 or 1-888-277-5289 (toll-free in the US), Monday through Thursday from 8 AM to 7 PM Eastern Time, and until 5 PM on Fridays. Members can also email general inquiries to [hq@arrl.org](mailto:hq@arrl.org).

The ARRL International Digital Contest is this weekend, June 1 - 2, 2024, and the ARRL June VHF Contest is June 8 - 10, 2024. The ARRL Contest Portal will be available with limited functionality at [contests.arrl.org](https://contests.arrl.org). Log submission pages will continue to be available at [contest-log-submission.arrl.org](https://contest-log-submission.arrl.org), and logs received can be viewed at [contests.arrl.org/logsreceived.php](https://contests.arrl.org/logsreceived.php). The log submission links are also available on the contest landing pages at [www.arrl.org/arrl-digital-contest](https://www.arrl.org/arrl-digital-contest) and [www.arrl.org/june-vhf](https://www.arrl.org/june-vhf).

Members are reminded that the June 2024 issue of *QST* magazine, the special ARRL Field Day edition, can be [viewed online](#). Members may also access digital editions of *QST* dating back to 2012. Access to archives for *QST* issues older than 2012, which are accessed through the ARRL website, is not presently available. For *On the Air*, *QEX*, and *NCJ* magazines, members may access the current issues and previous issues back to 2020. Visit [www.arrl.org/arrl-magazines](https://www.arrl.org/arrl-magazines) for links to all four magazines and to download the ARRL Magazines app.

Work is continuing to publish the July 2024 issue of *QST* magazine. We anticipate an on-time delivery of the digital edition, and delayed delivery for those who subscribe to the printed magazine.

We have heard from members asking if they can renew their membership at this time. Members can renew online at [www.arrl.org/join](https://www.arrl.org/join) or by phoning ARRL.

As reported earlier this week, ARRL Store orders ([www.arrl.org/shop](https://www.arrl.org/shop)) have resumed shipping.

The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC) has resumed the processing of Amateur Radio License applications with the FCC. A more comprehensive update on the status of ARRL VEC services is available [here](#).

There has been no interruption to visitor operating at W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station. The station resumed voice bulletins on Thursday, May 23. All other scheduled transmissions, including Morse code

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practice, and code and digital bulletins, will resume on Thursday, May 30. Please refer to the regular operating schedule at [www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule](http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule).

After last week's distribution of the ARRL Letter, our e-newsletter service has resumed. Current editions of ARRL Club News and The ARES® Letter have also been distributed.

There has been no disruption to the @arrl.net email forwarding service, though forwarding email addresses and aliases cannot be modified at this time.

Editors Note: In this latest update, no mention has been made of the status of Logbook of the World (LoTW) and when DXCC applications will be resumed. As of this writing, the link for downloading the DXCC application forms is down.

The ARRL has been less than forthright in providing information to the membership as to what happened and when and if services can be restored. Evidence seems to point to a “Crypto Hack” to the system although the ARRL is silent on the subject.

By KD9HL

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## Question of the Month

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

Many Dxpeditions are using a variation of WSJT-X (FT8) called MSHV. What does MSHV stand for?

- A. **MS**=Multi Stream **HV**=High Volume
- B. **MS**=Multi Stream and **HV**=the last letters of the creator's Amateur radio call.
- C. **MS**=Max Stream **HV**=High Volume
- D. Nothing. It is just a made-up name.

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

The club newsletter index is now up to date from 9/2013 to 2/2024 thanks to our webmaster John, KD9RON. That's 132 issues and with approximately 5 articles per issue, that's 660 articles. That is a lot of information! Using EXCEL, select “Find/Select” in the upper right to do your searches.

Thanks John,

Jerry, W9KTP

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**ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**MOON BOUNCE PRESENTATION**  
**BY**  
**Dave Chasey, N9FN**

Our fellow member, Dave, N9FN, has volunteered to make a presentation on EME (Earth, Moon, Earth) or better known as Moon Bounce at our next meeting on July 12, 2024. Hear about the history, technology, his accomplishments and how you may be able to join the Moon Bounce crowd with equipment you already have. Hope to see you there since there will not be a ZOOM link for this meeting.

73's,  
Jerry, W9KTP

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## A Really **BIG** Antenna

**By Steve Mollman-KD9HL**

As a teenager and adult living in the shadow of the US Navy Radio Station NSS-Annapolis, I was able to watch much of the development of this gargantuan antenna system. Such things as 800 and 1200-foot towers with supporting 600-foot towers. A sight for an amateur operator to behold and drool over!

NSS-Annapolis first came operational in 1918 with two 350 KW arc transmitters. Annapolis was strictly a transmitting site-the receivers were originally located at the Navy Yard Annex in Washington, DC. Later the receiver site was relocated to Cheltenham, MD, about 30 miles from Annapolis.

Over the years improvements were made with the spark-gap transmitters being replaced in 1931. By 1969, the “big” transmitter was a 1000 KW VLF machine using four distilled water cooled 250,000-watt Eimac tubes in a “push-pull” configuration. (Four spare tubes were kept in a “ready” mode for instant replacement should one of the on-line tubes fail).



*Three of the Eimac 250KW tubes*

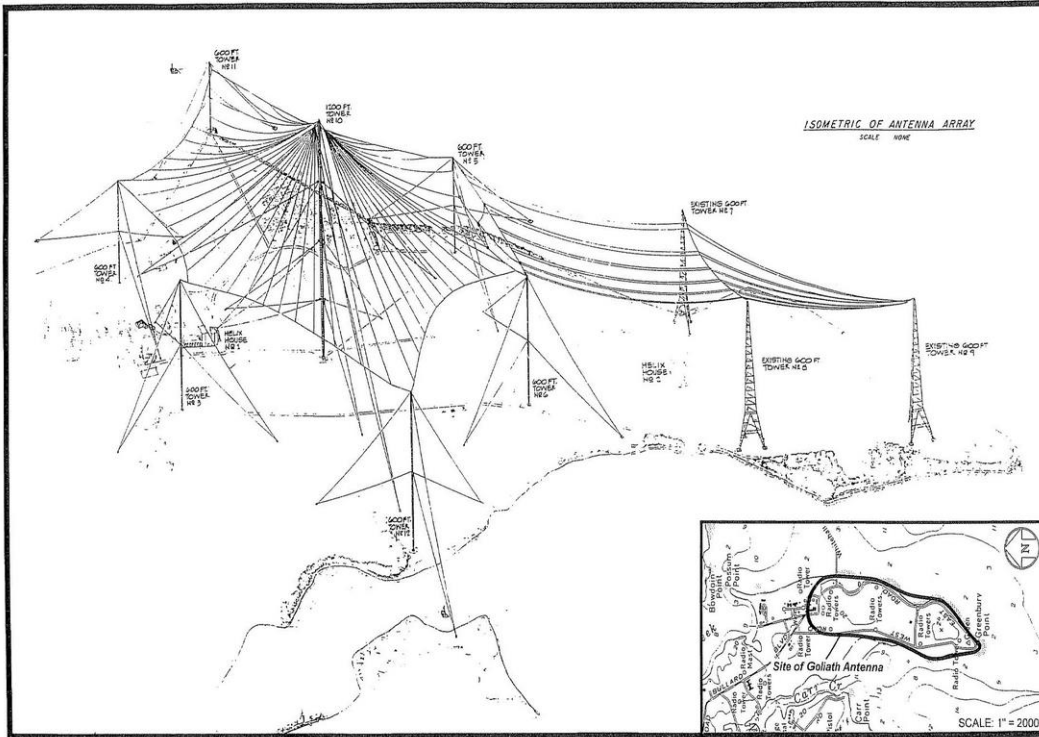
The antenna system was a 1200-foot guyed center tower surrounded by nine 600-foot towers (three of which are identical to those erected in 1917). The "Goliath" antenna consisted of the 1200 tower and the "top hat" assembly supported by the 600-foot towers, covering about 200 acres. To make the antenna appear to be the correct length for the transmitter, the huge capacity top hat was employed. A "top-hat" was necessary because at the 21.4 KHZ operating frequency, the wavelength is about 8 miles! The actual tower, of course is only 1200 feet. Ceramic insulators supported the center tower system which was reported to weigh "about as much as a destroyer." (7000 to 9500 tons).



*The Ceramic Tower Base*



The output from the transmitter coupling coils is fed to the center tower at the 300, 600 and 900-foot levels and these "lead-ins" are part of the antenna system.



*A Drawing of the Antenna with its "Top-Hat"*



Rendered obsolete by satellites, frequency hopping technology and the end of the cold war, NSS ceased operation in 1999 and all of the antennas and most of the towers were removed. Three of the smaller 600-foot towers were preserved as a historical site and to serve as aids to navigation for boaters on the Chesapeake Bay. The site today is the Naval Academy Golf course. The penalty for a golf ball hitting one of the towers is a stroke and distance.

As a side note, The NSS transmitter fed one million watts of RF to its antenna, and during idle times, transmitted the string "W W W VVV VVV VVV DE NSS NSS NSS" in Morse code. The power was so high and the frequency so low, one could often hear the signal on many of the cheap AM receivers of the day. Messages were sent in Morse code, but were encrypted.

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# Question of the Month Answer:

Many DXpeditions are using a variation of WSJT-X called MSHV.  
What does MSHV stand for?

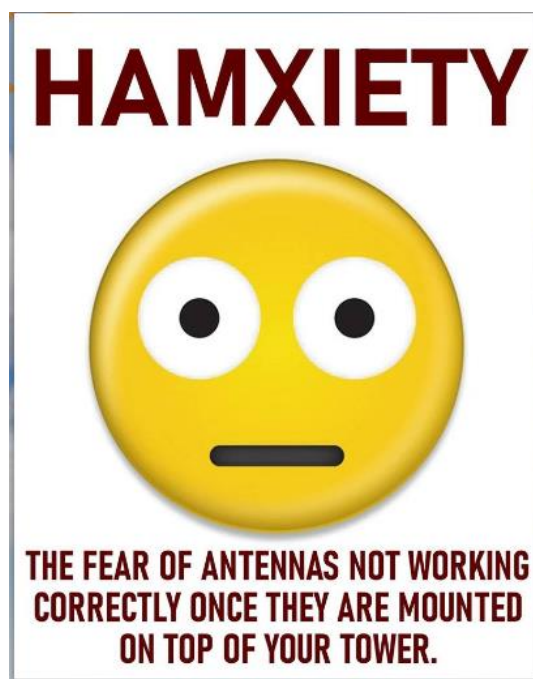
**Answer: B.** MS=Multi Stream and HV=the last letters of the creator's call.

MSHV was created by LZ2HV- Christo Hristov. The software is used by many DXpeditions because it allows high rates of QSO's by multi-streaming, is compatible with ft8/ft4 and most other WSJT-X modes. A big attraction is that it recognizes both Fox/Hound and conventional signals at the same time.

Besides ft8/ft4, MSHV is able to work MSK JTMS FSK ISCAT JT6M JT65 PI4 and Q65.  
Many stations that are calling the DX do not care for Fox/Hound because it requires constant monitoring as it times out after four calls.

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# **Greetings to all DXers: NCDXA RoundTable Guest Speaker Series Announcement**

## **Monthly Guest Speakers**

The NCDXA (National Capitol DX Association) has scheduled Frank Donovan, W3LPL, for January 18 to talk about Cycle 25 and other propagation topics. IARU President Tim Ellam, VE6SH, will join us as the February 15 speaker who will talk about the WRC-23 results and amateur radio; and he will also talk about IARU and foreign countries. (A WRC always presents opportunities for productive side discussions not on the WRC agenda. Tim will discuss his side talks and making progress, if any, with North Korea and other nations.)

## **Zoom Info**

The Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81578573557?pwd=a2FheEhqZVBNN2dkcDB3WmNUaDdjZz09>

## **NCDXA Thursday Roundtable Meetings**

Other than the monthly guest speakers, the NCDXA has its normal roundtable Zoom meetings every Thursday evening at 7:30 EST. There is no formal agenda. The meetings are informative and fellow DXers discuss the current and upcoming DXpeditions and rare DX, including tips on getting QSOs. Technical topics are sometimes discussed in the DX context. You don't have to be a NCDXA member to attend. Please join us.

73, Phil Barsky, K3EW  
NCDXA Lead Director  
[phillipbarsky@gmail.com](mailto:phillipbarsky@gmail.com)

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## **FOR SALE ITEMS**

**FREE Astron LS-10A 28 VOLT DC POWER SUPPLY. No shipping.  
Power Supply Weight: 18.00 lbs. Contact John, W3ML**



**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

President Northwest Indiana DX Club

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



**DX**

**THANKS**

*Thanks for visiting!*

