



HAMLETTER



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Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs

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THE CROWDED HAMFEST



From the President's Gavel

by Bob Fairbairn, KE9AWCRA President



Happy New Year to all of you. I hope that you and yours had a great holiday season. We are approaching a big event for the club our 2003 hamfest. I am excited to have it at the Kane County Fair grounds. Bruce K9OZ and his team have done a bang-up job and things look great. We still need folks to sign up for slots to work things like door guards, etc. Please contact the hamfest team to help out!

I hope to see you all at the hamfest, get out there and sell some tickets, tell your friends, come on out!

The executive board is in great need of a treasurer for the club. I am currently acting in that position and that means that only the treasurer work is getting done. If you have computer experience and understand the basics of personal finance we need your help.

On a final note I would like to pass on my personal condolences to Judy Truitt on the passing of her husband John. John contributed a lot to this club and to the community in general. He will be missed.

73 KE9A

DUES ARE DUE!!!!

WCRA Staff Elected Officers

President	Bob Fairbairn	KE9A	630: 682-3424
Vice President	Steve Peterson	N9OA	630: 742-3581
Secretary	Robert Mitiieri	N9EF	630: 510-7816
Treasurer	Bob Fairbairn - acting		
Custodian	Roberto Beltramelli	WA9E	630: 668-5688

Volunteer Committee Chairs

Club Call Trustee	Tom Geletka	N9CBA	630: 289-2535
Christmas Party	Dale Kwarta	NJ9E	630: 858-8541
Club Awards	John Truitt	W9LQL	630: 682-0304
Club Truck			
Elmer/Know-Code	George Reichert	W9GWR	630: 871-1786
Elmer/Know-Code	Charlie Matthews	WB9SGD	630: 665-4506
Field Day	Frank Krozel	KG9H	630: 653-9090
Field Day	Dale Kwarta	NJ9E	630: 858-8541
Hamfest	Bruce Plantz	K9OZ	630: 604-0157
Chaplin	Harry Sheaffer	W9AXI	630: 483-2044

Historian			
Interference			
Refreshments			
Refreshments	Steve Peterson	N9OA	630:742-3581
Membership	Kim Wiese	N9XE	630:545-9950
Membership	Robert Mitiieri	N9EF	630:510-7816
Membership Retention	Robert Noles	N9XS	630:372-7036
Public Relations			
Public Service	Joe LeFebvre	N9WRO	630:587-8059
VHF/HF Awards	Peter Barr	W9UF	630:971-8581

Amateur License Staff

Training Classes	Jack Feldman	KA9HEL	630: 515-0377
Tech Instructor	Mike Wolff	AB9AX	630: 778-1070
Tech Instructor	Robert Mitiieri	N9EF	630: 510-9783
General Instructor	Pat Byrne	K9JAU	630:858-1959
Extra Instructor			
Volunteer Exam.	Harry Kamer	K9HK	630: 953-0519

WCRA Repeater Administrative Board (RAB)

Trustee/Tech Adv	Tom Geletka	N9CBA	630: 289-2535
Chairman	Don Motz, Jr.	N9NYX	630: 665-7757
Secretary	Doug Totel	W9NJM	630: 469-3001
Tech Advisor	Gary Henle	N9VLL	630: 736-9102
Member	George Henry	KA3HSW	630: 830-6659
Member	Larry Schroeder	KA9KDC	630: 665-3228

WCRA Radio Nets

Sunday	8:00 pm	145.390/(-600)	Net Control: Rotates
Sunday	8:30 pm	224.140/(-1.600)	Net Control: Marty KA9RCC
Tuesday	8:00 pm	145.390(-600)	ARES Net
Tuesday	8:30 pm	444.475/(5.0)	UHF Net

WCRA Repeaters

145.390/ 144.790	103.5(1A) or 107.2(1B) PL Encode/Decode
224.140/222.540	Carries Access - SKYWARN Service Liaison
444.475/449.475	114.8 Hz(2A) PL Encode/ Decode
145.310/144.710	WCRA, W9CCU-1 Full Duplex Packet Reprtr

HAMLETTER

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**WCRA
Meeting
Minutes**

by: Robert Mitilieri
N9EF
WCRA
Secretary



The business meeting was called to order at 19:35 by the President, **Bob KE9A**, and introductions were made by the board and all attendees. A motion was made by **Dale, NJ9E** to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by **Joe, N9WRO**; a vote was taken and the motion was approved. The President announced John Truitt passed away this morning. Visitation is on 1/10. Bob also passed out certificates for Field Day. He also announced that we are in search of a new Treasurer as **Kim, N9XE** has resigned. The secretary **Robert,**

N9EF announced that the ARRL EC001 Emergency Preparedness course will begin registration soon. This course is designated for reimbursement upon successful completion. Bob, **KE9A** gave the Treasurers report. **RAB, Larry, KA9KDC** reported that the 2 meter repeater is still at Larry's, the 220 is at Roberto's and we are still waiting for COD to have the antennas installed. A question was raised as to whether the packet repeater was still in operation. It is. Training, **Jack, KA9HEL** reported that the next class beginning on 1/13 has six students registered. Field Day, **Dale, NJ9E** reported that WCRA placed 6th in category 7A. A motion to accept the committee reports was made by Dale, **NJ9E** and seconded by Joe, **N9WRO**. New Business: Feb. 7th is a music festival at the college. Bob will discuss this with the college. Bob also reported that we will be meeting in this room for a while longer. A motion was made by to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded. A vote was taken and the motion was carried and the meeting was adjourned at 21:35.



Continued from page 16 Activities on the HF Bands

Sorry to be so brief this month, but I'm way past my deadline due to work obligations. My sincere apologies to Don, **N9NYX**. In over 6 years of writing this column, I've never blown a deadline like this. Here's hoping it never happens again.

Special thanks this month to The Daily DX, DX-NL Newsletter, ARRL, OPDX and the SK3BG Contest Service for information used.

Until next month,

73 es Good DX

Pete, **W9UF**

My appreciation and that of the many readers of your column for the past six years of very faithful writing for the HAMLETTER. Editor.







Activities on the HF Bands

by:
Peter Barr
W9UF

The North Korean government ordered P5/4L4FN shut down November 22. Ed was called to a meeting with the "Radio Regulation Board" and was politely asked to cease all transmitting and pack his radio gear. The following day, a government official came by and sealed the boxes which contained his equipment. Ed left North Korea December 10th for two weeks of vacation and took the equipment with him. He'd planned to store it for use at his next assignment, which he says, will be another really good spot.

North Korea's action was an apparent response to the international community's negative reaction to North Korea's admission that they are developing nuclear weapons in violation of the so-called "agreed frame-

work" international agreement. Allowing Ed's operation and now prohibiting it are part of a pattern of North Korean behavior, as it tries to manipulate the outside world's perceptions of it. DXers should not be overly surprised at this turn of affairs. North Korea has always been a strange place, afraid to let its people be in contact with the rest of the world, which is what made it so rare in the first place. We were fortunate that Ed was allowed to operate at all, and that he was able to stay on the air for as long as he was.

Hans/DL7CM and Sid/DM2AYO will operate from Haiti between January 30th and February 16th. Their callsigns will be HH2/DL7CM and HH2/DM2AYO. Although attempts were made, they were not able to obtain a special 4V prefix from the Haitian PTT. Their activity will be on all HF bands 160-6 meters on CW, SSB and RTTY. Their main goal is to be on the low bands, 6m and RTTY. For more information on this operation, please visit their Web page at: <http://www.qsl.net/dl7cm/haiti.htm>.

Freddie,F5IRO is still on Reunion Island, and will be there until February 2003. To date he has not been able to obtain authorization from his boss to go to Juan de Nova. It is possible that Freddy may go to Glorioso in January for up to two days. In the mean time he may operate as FR/F5IRO from Reunion at the station of Conchita,FR5GQ (YL).

Mike,OM2DX has taken the place of Peter,OM6TY as operator at YI9OM, the shack at the Slovak Embassy in Iraq. Peter left Baghdad late in November. Mike has applied for the YI9DX callsign. He has been spending time on 160M and says he made 100 QSOs the week following CQWW CW. He worked most of Europe and Japan as well with just 100 watts and longwire that's not very well situated, he says. He will be trying to improve the 160 antenna. He reminds us that the weekend in the Arab world is Friday and Saturday, so Thursday and Friday nights are the ones he is the most active. He tries to operate split, listening up. His home page is www.qsl.net/om2dx. He says he will try to update it with Iraq QSO info so you can confirm that you did work him, and he would like you to refrain from calling if you are already in the log so others can work Iraq on 160. For skeds and such you can contact Mike at kristof@uruklink.net, which he says he checks often. QSLs for YI9OM contacts starting November 28, 2002 are now via OM3JW. Mike plans to be at the Embassy in Baghdad for two to four years and plans to be active on CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK31. 425 DX News says to look for him on 160 between 1832-1833 kHz starting at 2Ø3Øz. A late report had YI9OM on 14088 RTTY Friday at 1ØØØz.

K3LP recently announced that he's organized a contest DXpedition to the Turks and Caicos Islands. The group, which includes K3LP/VP5, WX3B/VP5, N3SB/VP5 and N7DD/VP5, expect to be QRV from February 13 to 20, including a multi-op effort in the ARRL CW DX Contest. During the Contest they will use VP5LP. Before and after the contest the group plans activity on 10-160 meters, including the WARC bands, on CW, SSB and SATELLITE. QSL Direct only via N4ZH.

Gisela,DK9GG (YL operator) will operate as V31GW from Corozal, Belize, Central America and Gerd,DJ4KW,(her OM) will operate as V31YN from January ninth until February 25th, 2003. QSL to them via their home calls. Another couple will join them in February. Those callsigns are not yet assigned. For IOTA fans, February 21-23 they will be on San Pedro, NA-073, signing V31YN/p.

Alan,K4AVQ has informed OPDX that he will be active as P4ØAV from Aruba January 4-18th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters, however, he will be spending extra time on 160/80 meters CW looking for stations that need it for DXCC. QSL via K4AVQ.

Monk Apollo,SV2ASP/A, is again outside of Mount Athos ("the garden of the Virgin Mary," he calls it) gathering olives. He is expected back in Mount Athos sometime after December sixth. Kostas,SV1DPI met with him in person in early December and reports to the DX community that he is in very good health. For newer Dxr's entering the Hobby, Apollo is an Orthodox monk living in monastery on Mount Athos in Greece. Because of its religious independence from the government, it is afforded separate DXCC status in the same manner as Vatican City. To date, his have been the only operation sanctioned by the DXCC desk for this entity, make Mount Athos somewhat rare, and a good catch. Apollo was expected to return to the air by mid to late December, and may be operating by the time you read this. QSLing is slow because there is a lot of non-ham work for the monks to do. He answers all the cards, but he does not computer log and having the accurate time on your QSL can be critical in helping him find your QSO.

Pai,VU2PAI, has resolved his antenna problems and is now ready for the top band season. Look for Pai on 1.822 or 1.825 or thereabouts, from 19ØØ-21ØØz. He will try to be on regularly, but will particularly try to be on weekends. He says if you work him and want a QSL, you can request it via e-mail at vu2pai@qsl.net. Be sure to include the date, time of QSO, frequency, mode and your mailing address. He also has a web site, www.vuiota.com.

William,ZS5WC/STØF has returned to Khartoum, Sudan until next summer. Although he does travel through the country, he is not being allowed to use his radio at his remote site now, so his operations will be from Khartoum only.

AA8LL/C6A and K8LIZ/C6A plan to be on from Crooked Island, Bahamas, NA-113 January 18-20, 2003. They also have permission to operate as C6ALB from Bird Rock Lighthouse there. Operation will be mostly SSB near the IOTA frequencies from 40-10M with CW by request "for those who always request it." QSL to their home calls when they are stroke C6A and via AA8LL for the C6ALB QSOs.

Every couple of months (or when I think of it) I like to remind everyone of the frequencies for Islands On The Air (IOTA). They are:

CW 28.040 24.920 21.040 18.098 14.040 10.114 7.030 3.530
SSB 28.560 28.460 24.950 21.260 18.128 14.260 7.055 3.765

Robert,3A2MY will be QRV from Aconcagua, the highest peak in the South American Andes, from January 16 to 23. The mountain is 6959 meters above sea level. He is with the Alibert expedition and will be active as LU/3A2MY with a 5 watt QRP rig, which will be powered by solar cells. Keep an ear out for him on 20 meters between 14.280 and 14.290. A special QSL card will be issued when he returns to Monaco. QSL via 3A2MY.

Hugo,LA5YJ is now on assignment in Katmandu, Nepal and has obtained his 9N7YJ callsign. He has been QRV on 20 and 30 meters until late yesterday when he was on 40 meters CW. Hugo is using a vertical for 40 and 80 meters. Look for him to be active until the beginning of February next year. QSL direct only via LA5YJ.

Felix,DL5XL will be wintering the 2003 season at the Neumayer Station, Antarctica from March to November next year. When he is not working as the radio operator and electronics engineer at the German research base he'll be active as DP1POL mainly on CW, but also on SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL via DL1ZBO, either direct to Rainer Hilgardt, Hans-Sachs-Weg 38, D-64291 Darmstadt, Germany or via the bureau.

Special event station ZS9ØSAP will be QRV during 2003. They will be commemorating 90 years of South-African Police Service. QSL via ZS6ZYM, either via the SARL bureau or direct to Jan Swanepoel, P.O. Box 14393, Zuurfontein 1912, South Africa.

Jim Bullington, N4HX (ex 9U5JB, TYA11) is now signing 5U7JB and working as the director of the Peace Corp in Niamey, Niger. He'll be stationed here for the next two and a half years. He is using a two element delta loop and has been fairly regular on 10 and 15 Meters around 15ØØ - 16ØØz.

E2ØAJ will be a special event station from Thailand now through January 7 during the 20th World Scout Jamboree to be held in Sattahip, Thailand. The web site is <http://www.qsl.net/e20aj/>.

IR5ONU will be a special event station by the ARI Val di Chiana ham club December 8-May 10. QSL via I5KKW, direct or bureau.

The CYØMM on-line log has been updated for the final time. It contains 49,511 QSOs, the last being on November 29th at 1228Z. The log was sent 45 minutes before the team left Sable Island. The web address is <http://dx.fireroute.com/cy0mm>.

Lee,DS4CNB has joined the team at South Korea's "King Sejong" base on King George Island, South Shetlands (AN-010). He arrived early last month and will be there through November 30, 2003. Lee plans to be active on all modes using either the HLØKSJ or D88S callsign. QSL via his home call.

Here is a very good site to find QSL information after major DX contests: <http://www.arrakis.es/~ea5eyj>.

Logs for the V63RE and V63WN operations from IOTA OC-253 can now be found at <http://www.ddxc.net/search.asp>. In the future, the OC-254 logs will also be here.

The SØ7L Photo gallery can be found at <http://www3.ocn.ne.jp/~iota/newpage39.htm>.

DX Potpourri

Gerard,HR5/F2JD is active now through March 3, 2003. He plans to be on 160-6 SSB and CW. He may do some traveling while in Honduras to active some IOTA's. QSL via F6AJA.

Marco,ST1MN will be a new station from Sudan starting February 28 through next June. The 425 DX News says he is not used to pileups, so take it easy on him. Claudio,IV3OWC will join him in mid-March for a month of operating. Claudio previously operated as 9E1C. While in Sudan, Claudio will use the callsign ST1C and he will be in the CQ WPX SSB. QSL either of these via IV3OWC.

Chris,TT8DX returns to Cameroon in January for a six month stay with side trips to TZ, TU, TR, 5H, XT and TT

F5MNH/TA is active from the European side of Turkey. He is using an Atlas 210X and can be found on 10, 15 and 20 meters SSB during his afternoons.

Ed Madison,W2SN announced he is scheduled to operate as VP6EM from Pitcairn Island on February 4, 2003. Look for him between 17ØØ and 2359z on 10, 15 and/or 20 Meters SSB, depending on propagation. QSL via W2SN.

F6GYV, (ex FT5XH, FO8IK, and 6W8FN) Francois Theveneau is now in Bamako, Mali and QRV as TZ8FT. QSL via F2YT.

Joe,W8GEX and John, WZ8D will be at WP2Z in the U.S. Virgin Islands vacationing with their wives until January 8. They plan to be on 160-6M. Joe will have his PSK31 gear along. John will spend most of his time on 6 and low band CW. He will monitor 50.125 beaming the US and 50.110 when looking toward Europe. If six opens, look for him on 50.122 CW or SSB. QSL to their home calls with SASE. If any special KP2 call-sign is obtained, WZ8D will handle those QSL requests.

Jerry,K6MD received the German callsign DA1MD, and will be signing that callsign /p for the next 90 days from Kosovo

TrustedQSL is working with the ARRL on the Logbook Of The World (LOTW) program. You can read all about the design specifications at <http://trustedqsl.sourceforge.net/lotwspec.pdf>

TIME	DATE	CONTEST/EVENT NAME	BAND	MODE
0000z	Jan 1	ARRL Straight	80/40/20	
2400z	Jan 1	Key Night	80/40/20	CW
1800z	Jan 4	ARRL RTTY		
2400z	Jan 5	Roundup	80-10 Meters	Digital
0000z	Jan 11	Hunting Lions		
2400z	Jan 12	on the Air	80-10 Meters	Phone
1800z	Jan 11	North American		
0600z	Jan 12	QSO Party	160-10 Meters	CW
0900z	Jan 12	DARC (Germany)		
1059z	Jan 12	10 Meter Contest	10 Meters	CW/Phone
1200z	Jan 18	Michigan		
2359z	Jan 19	QSO Party	160- 6 Meters	CW
1800z	Jan 18	North American		
0600z	Jan 19	QSO Party	160-10 Meters	Phone
0000z	Jan 25	CQ	160 Meter	
2359z	Jan 26	Contest	160 Meters	CW
0000z	Feb 2	North American		
0400z	Feb 2	Sprint	80/40/20	Phone

Special thanks this month to The Daily DX, DX-NL Newsletter, ARRL, OPDX and the SK3BG Contest Service for information used.

Until next month,

73 es Good DX

Pete, W9UF



BIRTHDAYS OF JANUARY & FEBRUARY



As a reminder, the FCC database no longer provides date of birth as it once did. If you do not see your name appear in the list of birthdays and would like to be included please forward this information to the editor.

GEORGE	W9GWR	01-03-45
SCOTT	KB9IYY	01-05-55
CAROL	KB9FYL	01-16-58
GARY	N9VLL	01-18-53
STEVE	W9XF	01-23-49
MARITHERESE	N9QGR	02-02-54
BRUCE	K9OZ	02-03-53
JOHN	K9FID	02-06-46
FRED	KB9MVU	02-12-55
RICHARD	K9MGX	02-23-38
PETER	WD9ISG	02-25-51

DUES FOR 2003 ARE DUE NOW

Applications can be found at <http://www.wheatonhamfest.org>

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Activities on the HF Bands

by: Peter Barr W9UF
February's Column

Those involved in the second DXpedition to Ducie Island now seem to be slowly releasing details of the upcoming trip to take place in early March. The callsign was originally expected to be the unusual callsign VP6DI2, per both the Pitcairn licensing authority, and the DXpedition's leader, Yuichi, JR2KDN who will be the QSL manager. Yuichi confirmed there has now been a change and the call will now be VP6D. There will be three sites set up, with activity on all bands including 6 meters and AO-4Ø. For those of you who missed the first Ducie operation, it seems you will have a better chance this time around as they plan to have both 20 meters and 15 meters operational around the clock. If the seas cooperate, they expect to come up on the air for about a week, starting March 8th.

OPDX is reporting the operators' preferred modes/bands as follows: Dieter, DJ9ON (CW op); Hans, DK9KX, (CW op); Philippe, FO3BM, (6m SSB op); Hiro, JA1SLS (CW/SSB op); Yuichi, JR2KDN (SSB op); Doug, N6TQS (SSB and AO-40 op); Dave, VP6DB (10m SSB op); Mike, VP6AZ (10m SSB op); and Meralda, VP6MW (17/12m CW/SSB op). Pilot stations will be JE2EHP, je2ehp@jarl.com; DJ8NK, C_Harders@compuserve.com; and WA2MOE wa2moe@firstinter.net. They will have two web sites: <http://www.qsl.net/wd4ngb/ducie.htm> and <http://www.qsl.net/aa0mz/ducie2.htm>. QSL to JR2KDN, direct or bureau.

9Y4/DL6RAI (Trinidad and Tobago) will be manned by Ben, DL6RAI and Roberto, IV3IYH, Roberto, 160-10 SSB, CW and RTTY February 11-March 3. They will actually be on Tobago (IOTA SA-009) and will be in the ARRL DX SSB and CW contests (see below) using the 9Y4TBG call. QSL via DL4MEH. Roberto may actually use his own home callsign with 9Y4/ on the front outside the contest as well. Two different differ on this.

XR6M will be the callsign from Chile's Mocha Island (SA-061) February 5-9, entirely devoted to 6M with four operators. Look for them on 50.110 plus satellites AO-40, AO-7, UO-14, RS-15 and AO-27. Ops are Guillermo, XQ3SA, Axel, CE3AFC, Hector, CE3VII and Felipe, CE3SAG. Their web site is <http://www.qsl.net/xr6m>.

DP1ANF will be a special German callsign from the South Shetlands (AN-010) starting as soon as this month. The operator will be Oleg, R1ANF and he'll be on King George Island there in the S. Shetlands. He also hopes to be on from Argentina's Teniente Ballve Refuge on Ardley Island, also S. Shetlands. It's also IOTA AN-Ø1Ø. The Ardley Island part could start in the beginning of the month.

HL5/VK2DXI is Mirek (7XØDX, 9V1XE, VK6DXI, VK3DXI and 9M8DX) operating from Pohang, South Korea. He plans to be there until mid-May and concentrate his activity on the low bands. QSL via DX5UCP.

John, NT5C reports the supply ship should arrive in the South Orkney Islands, where LU1ZA has been active, about mid February and the operator, Jose, will be leaving. But, another operator, named Hannibal, home callsign not known, is arriving. Also, Henry, LU4DXU an experienced DXer and contesteer, is aboard the ship and is expected to be on the island for a few weeks.

Here's a similar one. I suppose it's because it's the beginning of summertime in the southern latitudes that all the supply ships are embarked to the remote southern areas. GM0HCQ, Mike, will again be on the supply ship "Ernest Shackleton" going to VP8SIG, Signy Base, South Orkneys. Estimated arrival date is March 27-31. No landing is planned at Rothera Base, Adelaide Island.

VP8CTR should be the call for Roman, UT7UA when he arrives at Vernadsky Base, Galindez Island (AN-ØØ6), and Antarctica, starting within around the first of the month. QSL via DL5EBE.

VP8ROT from Rothera, the British Antarctic Survey base on Adelaide Island, AN-001, is currently being put on the air by one of the summer staff members. Mike,GMØHCQ says he will be acting as the QSL manager but doesn't even know yet exactly who the operator is. When he finds out he'll put out the info on www.gm0hcq.com.

Arno,DL1CW and Andy,DL3GA hope to be on February 5-18 from Ghana,9G. They have requested the callsigns 9G5AP and 9G5GA respectively, with no confirmation of those yet. They plan to be on 80-10 including WARC and 6M, CW, RTTY and some SSB. They plan to be in the WPX RTTY and ARRL DX CW contests.

Steve,VK3SIX/VK3OT reports he has cancelled his planned trip to KHØ and KH2 in favor of an extended stay on Christmas Island where he will help build a community radio station. He will operate under the VK9XT callsign, HF plus 6M starting on April 7th, 2003. An alternate callsign possibility is VK9SIX if he can get it, since he's a 6M fan.

Mike,OM2DX has replaced OM6TY, Peter, at the Czech Republic Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq. He had been using Peter's YI9OM callsign from the time of CQWW CW until about two weeks ago, when Peter asked him to stop using it, without explanation. So, Mike is off the air until his own callsign comes through. He is hoping it will be YI9DX. He expects this to take a while.

4W6AN activity from East Timor has been postponed. VK4AAR, Alan, says there will be more information in due course.

Larry,VQ9LA(WDØHSP) recently retired from the U.S. Navy and has accepted a civilian contractor position on Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean. He expects to be active as VQ9LA for at least the next year. He prefers, when you work him that you use standard international phonetics, since that's what he's used to as a U.S. Navy radioman. He plans to be active on 80-6M RTTY, SSB, CW and FM. He currently does most of his operating on 17 meters at 14ØØz, trying to reach his family and friends in Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas. His favorite frequency is 18.130. QSL direct to DG21 Larry Arneson, PSC 466, Box 24, FPO AP 96595-0024 or via VQ9X, Diego Garcia Amateur Radio Club, c/o MWR, PSC 466 Box 14, FPO AP 96595, Chagos Archipelago. Include a SASE with first class U.S. postage. QSL cards are not yet printed.

Bill,W5SJ is currently on Fernando de Noronha, and preparing for the CQ WW CW 160 Meter CW Contest. He will have the call PRØF for use during the contest. He may have to use PYØF/W5SJ all other times. Before and after the contest, he'll concentrate on the 12, 17 and 30 meter bands, with CW as a priority with a switch to SSB upon request. Each day at 19ØØz, Bill will check 21.225. During the contest weekend and perhaps at other times, the operating position will be visible via PYØFF's webcam at <http://www.noronha.com.br/py0ffcaml.htm>. QSL via W5SJ at the new Arkansas address on QRZ.COM.

The following are some of the mini Dxpeditions planned for The ARRL CW DX contest February 15-16

Call	QTH	QSL	Notes
6Y5/K3TEJ	Jamaica	K3TEJ	Single Op, All Band
9Y4TBG	Tobago Is. (SA-009)	DL4MEH	QRV Feb 11–March 3
D4B/4L5A	Cape Verde	4L5A	SOAB, High Power
E2ØHHK	Thailand	E21EIC	100 Watts
E2ØNTS	Thailand	E21EIC	100 Watts

HS4BPQ	Thailand	E21EIC	100 Watts
Ly1YK	Lithuania	LY2FY	Multi Op
LY7Z	Lithuania	**	Multi Op
N7OU/HI9	Dominican Rep.	N7OU	
PJ4G	Neth. Antilles	NO2R	QRV Before & After
PJ7/ND5S	Sint Maartem(NA-105)	ND5S	
S21YV	Bangladesh	KX7YT	
V26G	Antigua	N2ED	SOAB
V31JP	Belize	K8JP	SOAB High Power
V4	St. Kitts/Nevis	K8DD	Applying for call
VP9I	Bermuda	W6PH	SOAB 100 Watts

** PO Box 15, Kursenai, LT-5420, Lithuania

JQ1SUO/1, JF1CCH/1 and JA2HMD/1 will be active from Hachijo Island (AS-Ø43) on March 8 and 9. They will be QRV on CW and SSB on 10, 15, 30 and 40 meters. QSL via home calls either direct or via the bureau.

DX Potpourri

Sometimes, surfing the web pays off in a very big way. Recently I discovered an 18-part history of amateur radio at www.hrshowcase.com/wayback/wayback.html. These in 18 articles by Bill Continelli, W2XOY contained some very interesting and rare information about our hobby. I highly recommend that you check this site and print these articles out. Unfortunately, some of the best things found on the web have a habit of disappearing, and you'll want to keep these.

Han, HL1VAU says the group of Koreans who activated AS-Ø93 last April has planned another operation, this one near the end of March, from the Chu-Ja Islands. I'll have more information next month if it's available.

Pavel, EX8NP has been active on 80, 20 and 15 SSB. Look for him between 3789-3799 between 1315-1415Z and 2100Z, after which he sometimes goes to 20 meters, particularly 14171 kHz. QSL via IK2QPR.

IQ prefixes are now being issued as regular Italian club station calls. Individual operators who have been using IQ prefixes in contests will apparently be changing them. As an example, IQ3X (Andrea, IV3SKB) will now switch to the callsign IU3Y in contests.

Robert, 3B9FR, has been awarded the Chiltern DX Club's "Local Heroes" Award, given to "an outstanding operator who, resident in a rare DX location, has for many years willingly provided QSOs and QSLs for thousands of amateurs worldwide, all without major sponsorship." Robert is the first recipient, though the club appears to intend this to be an annual thing. Nominations for the 2003 award should be sent to

chairman@cdxc.org.uk in time for a June decision.

Don't be surprised to see Monk Apollo,SV2ASP/A on the digital modes (CW, RTTY and PSK31). Kostas,SV1DPI who is a friend of Apollo's says the Monks in the monastery usually wake up around 0030z and head for Church around 0100z. This usually lasts until about 0530z and then there is some free time. Another free time seems to be from 1700 to 1900z (this is the time slot I worked him -W9UF). Kostas did mention 40 meters at 0000z for the US. Apparently there is no SSB operations expected in the near future.

QSL manager Jean-Pierre, F6ITD announced that Henry,F6EAY (ex J28FF, 5T5AY, FB8ZM, FB8WJ FB8XAC, J20CU, J28EM) Henry, is in Kabul, Afghanistan for the next 35 days and is QRV as YA6RF. He has an IC-706 and dipoles for activity on 10, 12, 15, 17 and 20 meters. He'll return to France in late February then go back to Kabul for another 15 days. QSL via F6ITD.

Marcel,F6EKD headed back to Kabul yesterday. He will be there on assignment for the next two to three months. He plans to be QRV on CW only.

Husband and wife team Lot,DJ7ZG and Babs,DL7AFS are heading back to southwestern Africa this month. The couple plan to be QRV as 5X1DC from Ssesse Island, Uganda from February 9 to 23.

TIME	DATE	CONTEST/EVENT NAME	BAND	MODE
0000z	Feb 2	North American		
0400z	Feb 2	Phone Sprint	80/40/20	SSB
1700z	Feb 8	FISTS		
2100z	Feb 8	Winter Sprint	80-10	CW
0000z	Feb 9	North American		
0400z	Feb 9	CW Sprint	80/40/20	CW
0000z	Feb 8	CQ WW		
2400z	Feb 9	RTTY WPX	80-10	RTTY
1100z	Feb 8	Asia-Pacific		
1300z	Feb 8	Sprint	40/20/15	CW
0000z	Feb 15	ARRL		
2400z	Feb 16	DX Contest	160-10	CW
1400z	Feb 15	YLRL		
0200z	Feb 17	YL/OM Contest	80-10	SSB
1900z	Feb 19	AGCW Semi-Automatic		
2030z	Feb 19	Key Evening	3.540-3.560	CW
2200z	Feb 21	CQ WW		
1600z	Feb 23	160 Contest	160	SSB
0000z	Mar 1	ARRL		
2400z	Mar 2	DX Contest	160-10	SSB

(continued on page 3)

FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 4th of February: Club breakfast **every** Tuesday morning 7-9 AM, Glen Oaks Restaurant, Glen Ellyn
- 6th of February: Club brunch **1st & 3rd** Thursday at 10:30 AM, Carol's Garden, Carol Stream
- 7th of February: Monthly membership meeting at Wheaton College 7:30pm in classroom #138 in the Billy Graham Center. The Billy Graham Center is located on the South side of Seminary Avenue across from Old Main. Classroom #138 can be reached by entering the front of the building, turning right and then left when reaching the hallway. Proceed south down the hallway until classroom #138.
- 15th of February: **DEADLINE FOR HAMLETTER SUBMISSIONS FOR MARCH.** Remember we are doing a limited printed edition. Please be prompt.
- 20th of February: VEC testing at the Helen Plum Library in Lombard from 6:30 till 8:30pm. One week early because of Thanksgiving.

WCRA General Membership Meeting - February 7th - Wheaton College - 7:30 PM

WCRA was founded in 1948 and continues to be involved in all facets of Amateur Radio supporting the healthy growth of the hobby through diversification and participation. Our members have always been our most important asset and we would like to see you join us for our next meeting. Our business meetings are followed by a break for conversation, coffee, soda pop, and fat pills. This is followed by an amateur radio related program. We would like to see you there to share the enthusiasm.

HAMLETTER

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First Class Mail

