

West Coast DX Bulletin



June 13, 1979

24-79

NIUE/TONGA Commencing early in July, a team out of New Zealand will be working several of the South Pacific stops, their plans including 5W1-Western Samoa, A35-Tonga and ZK2-Niue. The group includes ZL1BCG, Ian Ridpath out of Auckland, ZL1ALE Aola Johnston of Papakura and ZL1AMN, Dave Johnston, also of Papakura.

The group expects to open on July 7th from 5W1-Western Samoa, then move on to open from ZK2-Niue where they will be active to July 20th. ZL1ALE and ZL1AMN will continue on to Tonga to sign A35 from their arrival to July 25th.

Aola, the XYL in the group will be looking to supply WL contacts from all three stops. ZL1BGG should be recognized by many DXers, he in the past has signed KX6ZZ, VR4AZ, 3D2DD, VK2BZM/VK9 from Norfolk, ZK1DD, and VE3EZM/C21. Dave Johnston, ZL1AMN was one of the operators on the last Kermedec operation when ZL1AA/K was signed.

The frequencies to watch will be:

CW:	3505kHz	7005kHz	14020kHz	21020kHz	28020kHz
SSB:	3750kHz	7095kHz	14195kHz	21295kHz	28495kHz

They will also be trying One-Sixty, the frequencies will depend on what might be permitted under local regulations. On the c.w. and SSB frequencies, the usual listening areas will be around 20kHz up the band. If there should develop need for alternate frequencies, they say to watch 3850kHz/14280kHz/21380kHz and 28595kHz.

Watch the QSL information. It is not the same for all the stops.

For Niue, the W/K/VES QSL to:

Canadian DX Assn
Box 717 Station Q
Toronto, ONTARIO M4T 2N7

All others and for all other operations, QSL to:

ISLANDS DX-PEDITION
P.O Box 263
Papakura, New Zealand

The group will also be found on various DX nets and generally will stick around as long as the directions of the Net Controls are observed. Efforts to by-pass the Net Control or to fail to follow Net Procedure will probably result in some QSYing. In other words, listen to the Net Control and follow their directions.

ZL1ALE and ZL1AMN will also appear on the YL-SSB System at 14332kHz at times, possibly on both the regular sessions and the evening sessions.

The callsigns may be available before their departure. The itinerary is firm, the call-signs a question. The planning has been helped by 5W1AU, A35WL, ZK2AE and ZL1BKX. The Canadian DX-Association is sponsoring the effort in part and air travel arrangements have been made with the Polynesian Airlines.

MANIHIKI On the plans of the ZLs for ZK1HI-Manihiki operations early in June, these have been slid back a month and are now aimed at the middle of July.

There is also an effort out of the Mid-West also looking for some action in the South Pacific, this starting in August with the Southern Cooks, YJ8 New Hebrides, FK8 New Caledonia, KS6-American Samoa, 3D2 Fiji, A35 Tonga, ZK2 Niue and 5W1 Western Samoa being possibilities. Actually their plans are loose and final decisions will be based on what is need and what has been run through the DX wringer recently.

The group will include Jim Blackman, KØEVE, Tom Lindgren, WØWP, Steve Towle, KØSVW and Alan Cresswell, ZK1DR. They are looking for both c.w. and SSB and QSLs will go to WØWP, Tom Lindgren, 1260 13th Avenue, Marion, Iowa 52302. There will be more updating on these plans but at this time they feel rather firm on some August activity.

SAN MARINO M1C may be hanging out the 'No Vacancy' sign as two of the Deserving W/K types plan to visit Antonio during the first half of July and run up a lot of business for the San Marino station.

Dennis Lusis will be visiting San Marino early in July, possibly around July 7th, and will put M1C on the air for two or three days. Then along about July 16th, W7KZE, Larry Luchi, will come pounding up the road to Antonio's and Larry plans to put M1C on the air for about four days, July 16th to 20th. Before we forget it complete, Dennis Lusis' call is W1LJ and he is out of Bristol, Connecticut.

During K7KZE's travel in Italy, he will also visit the Vatican and Manuel Calero, I4CMF, has made arrangements for him to operate a Vatican station, either HV1CN or HV3SJ. This should be around July 14th. QSL for K7KSE to his home QTH.....5007 West Clearwater Lot F, Kennewick, Wash 99336

West Coast DX Bulletin
13 June 1979

SUNSPOT LOUIE We heard from W6RQ recently and told Al that some were wondering what the chart would look like when the solar activity was high. Al said that he would work on it.

This week Al shows up to declare: "This is it!" And there it is! And the Solar Flux? It was up around 224 on this date!

And while all of the DXers are Deserving, and some more so, Al says that it is hard to understand how so many could be so deserving as to have have this. "Never mind the questions," we advised Al, "get the flux up and get that Ap figure down." It was around eight to ten on the day of this observation and we are sure that this could be improved with a bit more effort.

But it does look good. But will it last? It seldom does....long enough, and peering into the days of the summer solstice, N4XX says: "Repent!, there are dire days ahead!!" And as we slide from the euphoria of W6RQ to the forebodings of N4XX, all we can say is to enjoy the Good Days while they are here, tomorrow may not be the brighter day we've been promised.

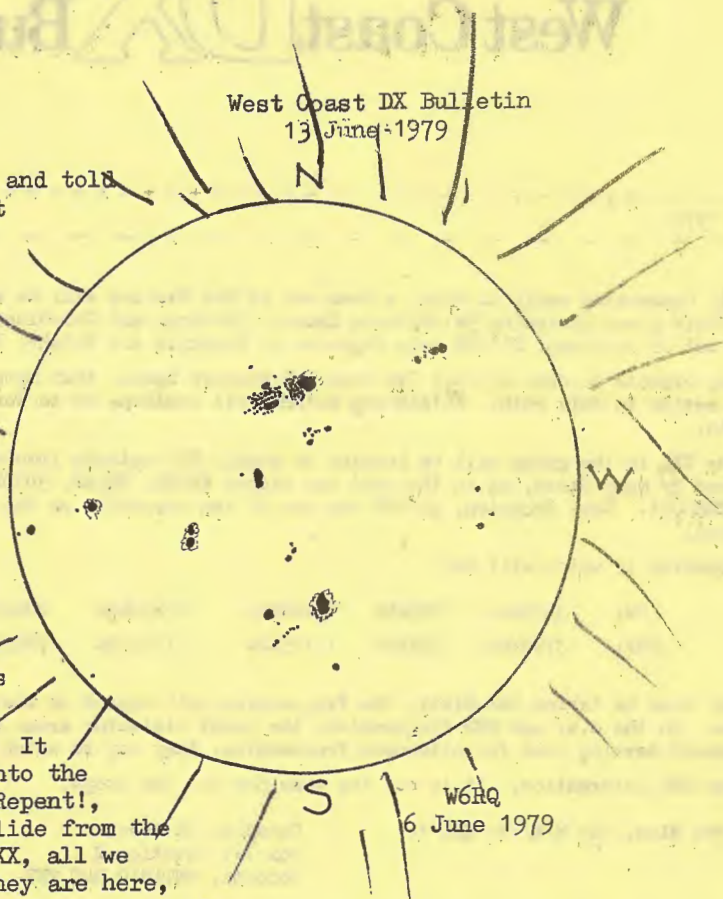
And what does N4XX promise? A slide down to the depths of LNs and BNs. Maybe better you'd work in the garden.

June 13th	Above Normal	June 20th	Below!
14th	High/Low Normal	21st	Below!!
15th	Low/Below	22nd	Below!!!
16th	Low Normal	23rd	Low!
17th	Low Normal	24th	Low!!
18th	Below Normal	25th	Low!!!
19th	Low Normal	26th	Low!!!

The labels may be bad but keeping in mind that all things are relative, including the categories used in the forecasts, and what may be Low Normal next week would have been unbelievably good DX a few years back. All of this is explained in the Propagation Handbook with every DXer in the know is buying these days.

But down in the border country K6EC knows when DX is good for Ev has worked most all of it. And when Ev comes roaring out of the south with the good news that he has the flux headed for the 200 mark, who can stop to argue that DX is not good these days. Ev says to slap this on your charts!

Solar Flux Ap Index			Solar Flux Ap Index		
May 28th	145	10	Jun 1st	184	6
29th	146	20	2nd	205	4
30th	154	15	3rd	220	6
31st	170	7			



No. 1774	40 spots
N14° W02°	550 millionths
1781	33 spots
N19° E30°	1150 millionths
1782	10 spots
S22° E39°	590 millionths
1783	1 spot
N08° E40°	240 millionths
1786	1 spot
S16° E52°	190 millionths
1788	5 spots
S20° E52°	80 millionths
1789	2 spots
N04° E61°	240 millionths
1790	3 spots
S09° E46°	20 millionths
1791	4 spots
S29° W55°	10 millionths

KH6BZF
4 Jun 79

SHORTLY NOTED We keep saying it because we are convinced. These are the Great Days of DXing and everyone of the Deserving should be wallowing in it. And never should be heard a discouraging word though some try hard to find something to complain about. But with the three day holiday at the end of May and all the DX around we were swamped with DX news. We tried to dig our way out but it hardly showed. Maybe next week we will clean up a bit more. Rejoice!! You are living in a memorable DX period and if you growl at all, you must be judged at less than Deserving!!

EI/DNF was a special call from the festival at Dundalk and EI/CN was operating. There has been no mail service into Eire for some months and every week we ask the local post office: "Eire?" And every week they say not yet. If you think your bulletin is slow in delivery at times, think of the EIs for whom we have a couple of month's bulletins back-stacked.

Some are a bit dubious about the TN8 being reported. Dubious as to whether he really appreciates DX. Seems that he wants to talk with his friends only, does not like pile-ups and is not interested in QSLing. Just what one needs from a rare one.

9M2FK needs Arkansas, Utah, North and South Dakota for WAS....and Zone 2 for WAZ. He is around 14020kHz most days around 1000 to 1300Z looking for the elusive W/Ks. VR1BE is looking for permission to operate as KH1. This one now has a QSL Manager and the cards go to N6ADI.

One well-known DX type who has been out in the hustings recently is reported as looking at a couple of rare ones.....such as 30Ø and San Felix. Nothing yet but looking hard. Something will come one of these days.

W1LJ will be at OHØ this week and along with OH3TV, OH2PQ and OH2BP will be on Brando Island signing /OHØ from June 16th to 17th. They will be trying eighty to ten and SSB and c.w. W1LJ says he wants no list operation and you may find all of them on the air at the same time. Check the usual DX frequencies. If you work W1LJ/OHØ QSL via W1CKA with sase, etc. For the OH-operators, go to OH2PQ, Kari-Pekka Aho, Osuuskunnantie 33 B 22, SF-00660, Helsinki 66, Finland. Again, Sase or Sae/IRC needed.

W1LJ will travel on to San Marino, this being mentioned elsewhere, and then on to North Africa but the plans there are not firm. He will be looking for places to operate there on the south shore of the Mediterranean.

There is a report that a couple of SV1s have been trying to line up a Mt. Athos license but have been turned down....hard. The Sable Island effort packed up last week, on Wednesday saying that their plane was landing and they were ready to shut down the operation. The P29JS Net which meets at 14220kHz has, since October 1978, over 180 DXCC countries checking in. The net continues to be bothered by QRM.....often deliberate. Letters have been sent to the telecommunications people in the countries involved but no relief so far. Jim is not getting discouraged, only irritated.

The Okino Torishima effort sailed from Iwaki in Fukushima prefecture on June 3rd and you may have heard it come on the air this last weekend. They sailed on the fishing boat "No 16 Hakuryu-Maru". Some have said the call would be JF1IST/JD1 while others were listening for JF1IST/7J1. Don't be particular. Work them now and argue about the callsign later. Some have said they they would be low-power, some have said that mobile stations in Japan are limited to 200 watts but it was also reported that they were taking....a 1.2KW generator...an 800W generator and two 300W generators. It was also reported that they would be only two operators but they were taking four rigs.

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THIRD PARTY TRAFFIC From time to time we have mentioned our continuing concern because we note there are so many psychiatrists on the mailing list for the bulletin. The nagging doubts that come in the night will not go away.....Is it them?....or us?

But in addition to all the psychiatrists, we also have one of those who works for the FCC doing monitoring work. It might be interesting to note what this one has to say about some things that are dear to the hearts of many of the Deserving.....List Operations!

At times the finger has been pointed by those who are opposed to lists and the finger is directed at Part 97.114 of the FCC regulations. This prohibits third-party traffic with those countries where a third-party agreement is not in existence. Some of those with the finger say that monitoring stations should, or will, cite stations passing such traffic. Some have said that citations have been issued.

What we Deserving types are up against is more form than content. You can draw a citation for passing a list, you will not if you watch your procedure. The line is whether the list is passed to a station in a country for which there is no third-party treaty, or are you passing the list to a stateside group.

Now that all of this is perfectly clear, we will go even further with an example. Say the List Master has a list for an 3V8 operation. If the list is compiled and passed directly to the 3V8....or some other station in a non-Third-Party country, you can be in violation. If you as List Master say: "3V8 call W6", you could be cited. But if you say: "W6 call the 3V8", you would be okay.

The FCC Monitoring type said that he would issue a citation if were to hear a list being passed to a station in a country with which there is no third-party treaty. This would be considered a violation of the third-party restriction. However, if the list was run by telling the stateside station to call the DX Station, everything would be okay and the FCC Monitoring would be moving on to other things.

It was also noted that some casual listening from the home station during the Abu Ail operation found at least twenty-five and probably a good number more U.S. stations calling outside the band. Only the fact that the FCC type was at home rather than at the monitoring facility saved things.

And for some final useful information, the FCC no longer issues pink slips. They have changed the form to yellow.

ANDAMAN ISLANDS Jim Smith, P29JS, has been looking for an Andaman operation since the Fall of last year. He followed procedures, filing an application for a visa at the Indian Embassy in Canberra, this ended up out in the Fijis. He kept trying but last week was up against the stonewall. He had word from New Delhi. They said.....

Mr. James B Smith
Konebodu, Papua-New Guinea

Sub: Request for Grant of an Indian Amateur W/T License

Sir: I am directed to refer to your letter dated 11th April 1979 on the subject mentioned above and to inform you that the new amateur rules have come into force with effect from 1st January 1979 in accordance which it has not been possible to grant the license for short periods of stay.

Yours faithfully
/s/ R K Kutar

Assistant Wireless Advisor to the Government of India

This note to P29JS was dated April 30th. It puts the clamp on one effort though it cannot be doubted that efforts will continue. But do not be looking for VU7 next week.

HEARD ISLAND Since the last operation from Heard in 1970, this one has moved steadily up in the 'Needed Countries' list and if a poll were to be taken at this time, it probably would end up about No. 5.

The first operation from Heard was back around 1949 when a VK1 put the island on the air. Years back it was the site of an Australian cable station and some of the buildings are still standing there at Atlas Cove. The cable station has been abandoned for years and only occasionally does a vessel stop there. The Antarctic supply vessels out of Australia stop there every year or so, mostly to see that the island is still there and the penguins and seals are leading an untroubled existence.

With some of the rare countries on the DXCC list being low-tide rocks or diminutive political enclaves, it should be noted that Heard is a fair sized island, roughly thirty five miles east to west and about twenty miles north to south.

The dominant feature of Heard is Big Ben, a massive ice-capped mountain in the center of the island. Mt. Olson is another snow capped peak and there are other lesser peaks.

Recent activity has included that of Don Miller in 1966 when he signed VK2ADY/VKØ for a brief run in the middle of what would be the winter time there on Heard. The location of Heard is about 72°S and 53°E. There often is a degree or so difference between some atlas' information but Kerguelen is the nearest land to the northwest, it and Heard being part of the same ridge rising out of the ocean.

Don Miller showed some slides of his visit to Heard, Big Ben and the cable station buildings being prominently displayed. The lack of snow in the mid-winter scene close to the Antarctic Circle was notable. Eventually this operation was disallowed by the ARRL DXCC Desk, this adding to the volume of imprecations directed at Newington for having such little faith in one who was bring so much new, needed and interesting DX for all the Deserving.

The USCG SOUTHWIND made a brief stop at Heard in early 1968, they timing their visit for the late part of the Heard Island summer. Bill Rohrer put the island on the air briefly but the following year VKØHM was put on the air by Hugh Milbourn who was on the island for several months making star-sights for the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. It was this operation that put Heard down the needed list for some years, the last activity being in the Spring of 1970.

Heard has moved up steadily in the wanted lists, it being No. 8 in the last poll made by W1AM and the Great DX Computer. By now it could be down to No. 5 with the recent activity at Spratly, Bouvet and the Neutral Zone. In the poll taken last year 75% of those responding needed Heard.

The VKs have been looking for a way to put Heard on the air and their feeling is that anything will depend on transportation and their hope, slim as it may be, is that it might be possible to get a lift on some of the Australian Antarctic resupply vessels headed for the bases down on the Antarctic continent. Nothing has firmed up as yet but with the interest being shown, it is quite possible that one of these winters the Deserving will hear some VKs enjoying the summer on Heard. Enjoyment is relative. As of now most of the action is hope.



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BURMA RUMORS Most have heard one or more, some have even worked a XZ station that was full of assurances. From the Warsaw Desk, we have some inside information from SP5RX on the SP5AUC who was supposed to be the true blue. Was Rolf, whose home call is SM5MX writing about the Burmese situation? He was not! We had been addressing his bulletin to "Warsaw, Norway" and it was not arriving as fast as it should. "Try using Poland," he tells us, "it will get to Bagatela 3 in downtown Warsaw just a bit faster."

Rolf, there in the Swedish Embassy at Warsaw, joined the local VHF to pick up some of the local Warsaw information. There had been hints that XZ2P was really SP5AUC in SEAsia garb. The locals there in Warsaw who know SP5AUC jumped into the fray to deny the rumor. Those who know him say that he is still there in the local scene and studying hard on his school examinations.

There was one bit of interesting information passed along. You will not find any listing for XZ2P in the Call-Book. Those in the know insist that the call has been issued to Dr. U No Him there in downtown Rangoon. Those in the know are firm on this point. That's always a convincer. Be firm in everything you say.

As long as we are covering the Warsaw scene, it might be noted that SP-amateurs can now work One-Sixty upon application to local authorities. The maximum input allowed is 10 watts and they are allowed to work in the 1750-1950kHz segment. There may be sub-bands, but then again, there may not. That's all we have...they can work One-Sixty.

DON MILLER We have had a number of queries on what has happened in this matter. To put it in a most succinct manner.....nothing.

Our Mojave Desk advises that a check in downtown Indio shows that the case is set on the Riverside County court calendar for June 22nd. This will indicate that we probably will have nothing until the issue of July 4th.

As indicated in the last report, at the preliminary hearings the request for a delay was asked and granted. The late June date should see the matter before the Superior Court there.

SHORTLY NOTED Some weeks back we had some items on QSLs for PJ9JR and PJ9KK. We had most of it right but it is N4MM who is getting the cards for these and they are Sint Maarten Slim for sure if they are not for October 1978. This was the only time the station was active. Someone has been using the calls recently and they are not the true-blue. It was the cards for FM0FC for the October 1977 operation that goest to W1JZ.

On the QSL route for TY9ER.....Karl Renz cards can be sent to his brother W2TK there in Jersey. We got the wrong letter in last time out. However, cards sent to DL8DC are being honored. Everything works out eventually including some of our high-speed typing.

The DXAC sub-committee on writing guidelines for DX operating has about completed its work and a draft is being circulated to the full DXAC for review and comment. Look for this to surface at the July Board meeting.

There is a very good rumor that 8Z4-Neutral Zone may show during the Autumn Equinox. We speak in hused tones and obscure references in this one because the story is not supposed to be out. But September.....remember!

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THAILAND On the matter of citing of amateurs reported a couple of weeks back, the ARRL followed up on the matter and last week issued the following bulletin:

The FCC Monitoring Station in Anchorage, Alaska, has been issuing notices of violation to American amateurs who have been heard in communication with radio amateurs in Thailand. These notices have been issued in error. This is no banned countries list.

American amateurs may presently communicate with other amateurs in any country without violating FCC laws. Amateurs who have received these notices are urged to respond in writing to the FCC within ten days, as required by Section 97.137 of the FCC Rules and Regulations. They should return the notice, retaining a copy for themselves, along with the letter which includes the date of the alleged violation and the names of officials who signed the notice.

They should add that they are aware that there is no banned list, and that therefore no violation of the rules has taken place. The reply should be sent via certified mail, return receipt requested.

That's the ARRL bulletin, the full text.

You will note that the ARRL passes along the information that there is no banned list. Once in awhile someone comes along and says that communication with amateurs in certain countries is forbidden. As far as the U.S. amateurs are concerned, this is not true and the W/Ks etc. are allowed to communicate with any whom they may entice into a QSO.

However, there are countries which do not allow amateur radio by its citizens or visitors. In these instances, the U.S. and all other countries are on the banned list.

FERNANDO de NORONHA Some were looking for the recent operation and PY7APS passes along word that things did not go all the way as planned and he had to return to Brasil after only six days of operation due to a death in the family. Gerson writes:

After six days of operation; of Fernando de Noronha Island, I had to return to Recife because of the death of my grandmother. The conditions were not good and I was only able to work 4300 stations. PYØMAG, Paulo, worked about 2000 up to the time I left and he planned to continue operating for a week after my departure. He would be found only on c.w. and mostly on eighty meters. The first week when we were together on Fernando de Noronha, we worked all the bands except eighty.

The first QSO of the DXpedition was with PY7ZZ and the first DX QSO was with HB9DX. My own last QSO as PYØAPS was with DJ6VM. It is believed that we were 'new countries' for J7DD and VP2VI.

During QSOs many stations said that they were unable to find PY1APS in their call-books. My call, PY1APS, is in the 1979 Callbook, before 1979 I was PY7APS and that was a long time 100% in the Call Book. However, if a real old Call-Book is used, the PY1APS listed is not me. The former holder of that callsign is no longer a ham so please do not send him QSLs.

Also, do not forget the SASE or SAE/IRCs for your QSL card. The DXpedition though somewhat shortened, cost us over \$1000.00 dollars.

I forgot to mention that conditions were completely closed on six meters. We tried but did not work any station up to the time I left and Paulo, PYØMAG, was planning to give it another try before he left.....

Gerson Rissin, PYØAPS/PY1APS/PY7APS

That's the report. Considering the number of trips that Gerson has made to the Brazilian Islands, you might expect that he will go again to most of them in the future. The callbook lists him as: Gerson Rissin PY1APS, Box 12178 Copacabana, 20000, Rio de Janeiro, RJ BRASIL.

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Should be on right now and through the week at low tide.
From about July 11th to 20th by ZL-group
The June plan is now set for July. Maybe even August....
PJ8 action by the Tunnel DX Club...July 12-16th
AI5P there from June 24th to end of month.
WB4IYS, WB4OSN, N4UM and W4ZR there from July 6th to 9th
AI5P there July 1st
North Jersey DX Group there next week...from July 20th
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This weekend..The Texas DX Scouting Force there from Jul 17
This weekend.....downtown Atlanta...at the Marriott
W1LJ there for a couple days from July 7th
W7KZE there from July 16th to 20th.....
WD6GHZ/KH5 sometime around or after July 1st..novice bands.
Last weekend of the month at Jackson Falls....Jun 30/Jul 1st
Baton Rouge, Louisiana July 20-22nd. All the DXers making
reservations at the Sheraton. There's safety in numbers
October 6th in downtown Waltham. Hail the scrod!
This weekend.....June 16/17th
This weekend.....June 16/17th
July 7/8th
July 14/15th
July 14/15th
CW goes July 21/22nd.....Phone goes August 18/19th
July 28/29th

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155BA 5 EL 15M.....\$129.	B-1000 BALUN 4:1\$ 19.
TH3MK3 3 EL TRI-BAND....\$159.	AUX-7 (TR7 PLUG-IN)...\$ 37.
18AVT/WB 10-80M VERT....\$ 75.	1525EM TOUCHTONE MIC..\$ 39.
ATLAS: RX-110 10-80M RECEIVER.\$189.	SHURE: 404C HANDHELD PTT MIC.\$ 19.
NPC:104R 4 AMP REG.13.6V PS.\$ 35.	K.E.: 80 & 40M TRAP DOUBLET WITH
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SOME ENDING NOTES There has been some mail coming to the DXAC on the matter of DX lists. It helps to give them your opinion no matter what it might be. At the West Virginia ARRL Convention scheduled for Jackson Mills over the last weekend in June, W8AH and W3AZD will be joined by N4MM from the DXAC to field the questions at the DX Forum. Here is a chance to hear the words first hand.

Vic Clark had a heart attack a couple of weeks back but has come along well after a stay in the local hospital. He was at the Fairfax, Virginia Commonwealth Hospital and responded well to treatment. Vic has been very active in IARU Region II work and the preparations for WARC 79. It has often been said that when Vic stands up to speak, most all amateurs look up to him.

The ARRL Board will be meeting in July. You might recall that last January the Board passed a motion calling for a review of the DXCC Awards program as to the present level of services and the need for any changes or improvements. We won't remind how the word was spread through every Middlesex town the last time the Board was getting ready to meet but it would not hurt to write the DXAC and your Director on your needs!

Thx to W1AM, W1DA, WA1EOT, K1ER/L, W1LJ, K1MEM, W1MV, N1RI, K1UO, W1VV, WA1WTP, WA1YTC, W1YY/7, W2AG, K2BXG, W2FP, W2HAZ, K2ICW, WA2JNN, W2NC, W3AZD, W3ODJ, W4FRU, W4HU, W4LINC, WA4JTI, W4LVM, N4MM, N4NW, K4OAH, W4LCL, W4PB, K4RZ, W4ZR, K5AQ, K5DB, W5CPI, W5OSJ, K5OVC, K5VNO/2, W5YH, AA6AA, K6AN, WA6BJS, K6EC, W6EJJ, N6EM, W6KPC, K6LAE, N6OB, WA6TLA, W6TSQ, AE6U, K6UFT, W6VD, WB6VTE, WB6ZUC, K7ABV, W7AQB, W7IL, W7KZE, WB7NFK, K7OAK, WA7OBH, W7TE, N7UT, K7UT, K8CW, K8IP, WD8LXV, WD8KSY, K8MPF, K8RD, W8UVZ, W9EQP, K9UTN, W9SC, W9SS, W9TC, W9TY, K9UR, W9PT, N9RF, W9JRN, WA9KDI, N9RR, W9BW, K9SVW, P29JS, SP5RX, KH6JWK, JA1TRC, GU5CIA, PY1APS, VE2FRA, KH6BZff ffffff

WEST COAST DX BULLETIN Published every week by the Marin County DX Group. Last week one of the local QRPers was up the hill, this one to throw himself in a chair and weakly complain that he was tired. "I've had it," he advised us, "I've had it with DXing and with work and with this always rushing to catch something just beyond reach. But most of all I'm tired of DXing. I've worked them all and there is nothing left in it for me. Just nothing at all." We had to listen carefully to all of this for we know that even the most enthusiastic DXer can weary and turn from DX, but usually for only a short time. "You really mean it?" we asked and the QRPer nodded. "I sure do. And mostly with DXing. I just don't understand these new type DXers. Years ago all DXers were gentlemen, all of us, and always we were trying to improve our station set-up and our DXCC score. It took years for me to get all those monobanders up on their own towers for ten fifteen and twenty. And even longer to get up those rotary arrays for eighty and forty. And when running my station I was always most careful not to push too hard so I would not go over the legal power limit. Always! It took years to get all of it together and then along comes these new appliance operators who would have trouble recognizing an 807 but who run right over you in a pile-up without regard for even the most common courtesies. There's none of them a gentlemen like we used to be. Back then every DXer was courteous and more than once they would stand aside to let me work them first because they knew that with my high power and big antennas that I was the one to do it. But things sure have changed." We had to think this one over for a bit. We were wondering how one could find the words to assuage the hurts of one who worries because he may no longer be secure as the local top DX dog. "Don't you think," we asked, "that maybe the new crop of DXers may be good for amateur radio and especially DX." We no sooner said that than we had a bristling DXer on our hands. "How do you figure that?" he said hotly, and we began to wonder if we should venture in where angels might hesitate to tread. "Look at it this way," we said, "any activity usually benefits from infusions of new people. They are the ones who bring the fresh willingness and the enthusiasms that we need. The new ones are the large body of doers and the everlasting workers. They really pick up and carry things. We old ones have been around the track so many times that we still expect to be out in front of the pack though we know we cannot run as fast as we once did." We were seeing that we were getting no place with the QRPer but we were not finished. "And what is wrong with some of the newer ones topping our scores. We've been at the top for a long time and enjoyed it. Why not let those with the enthusiasms come up for their turn." We had missed with our pitch. The QRPer was standing with hands clenched. "The longer I know you, the harder it is to understand you," and with that he was off and down the hill, unrepentant and unconvinced. But things do change and DX does along with it. And those other days were not all robins and roses and 'after you, Al". It was war!! But for those who want to find our some other changes, ask about our moveable DX rates for this DX bulletin. Everything with our rates is slippery....like the footing at the top of the heap.....

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