

# OPDX Bulletin 1297 December 26, 2016

The Ohio/Penn Dx PacketCluster

DX Bulletin No. 1297

BID: \$OPDX.1297

December 26, 2016

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Provided by BARF80.ORG (Cleveland, Ohio)

Written/Sent From Strongsville, Oh

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, AB5K & the AR TelNet Clusters Network, NJ1Q & W1AW, WO2N, NG3K & ADXO, W3UR & The Daily DX, N4AA & QRZ DX, WB6RSE, K8GG, K8GI, K8YSE, W8GEX & 60m DX News, W9ILY, DL1SBF, DL7UXG & The DX News Letter, DL7VEE, DxCoffee.com, DXNews.com, DX-World.Net, ES1CW, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, G8FXM, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, I2MQP & DX Italia News, M0OXO, OZ6OM & 50 MHz DX News, RSGB IOTA Web Site, Sixitalia Weekly, VA3RJ & ICPO, and VHF-DX-Portal (MMMonVHF) for the following DX information.

## **SPECIAL NOTE FROM EDITOR (Tedd, KB8NW)**

My family (wife/OPDX's chief proof-reader Linda, son Teddy [TJ] and his wife Jessi, daughter Katie and her husband Kevin and son Lliam and daughter Lilly Grace), and I (KB8NW) would like to wish all DXers, Contesters and OPDX readers a very "Happy Holiday, Merry Christmas and Season's Greetings". Thanks to the many individuals who sent holiday wishes to my family and me.....

73 and Have a Great Holiday de Tedd KB8NW

## **P.S. Just a reminder.**

Due to the Christmas and New Year holidays and family commitments, there is a strong possibility of a much smaller or no bulletin for the next week. However, special announcements will be sent out. Please keep sending the info, you never know what I may do.... Thanks for understanding...

73 de Tedd KB8NW

## **DXCC COUNTRY/ENTITY REPORT**

According to the AR-Cluster Network for the week of Sunday, 18th/December, through Sunday, 25th/December there were 220 countries active. Countries available: 3A, 3B8, 3B9, 3D2, 3DA, 3V, 3W, 4J, 4L, 4O, 4S, 4U1I, 4W, 4X, 5A, 5B, 5H, 5R, 5T, 5W, 5X, 5Z, 6W, 6Y, 7P, 7X, 8P, 8R, 9A, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9M2, 9M6, 9Q, 9V, 9X, 9Y, A2, A3, A4, A6, A7, A9, AP, BV, BY, C2, C3, C5, C9, CE, CE9, CM, CN, CP, CT, CT3, CU, CX, D2, D4, DL, DU, E4, E5/n, E5/s, E7, EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, EI, EK, EL, EP, ER, ES, ET, EU, EX, EY, EZ, F, FG, FK, FM, FP, FR, FY, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU, GW, H4, HA, HB, HB0, HC, HI, HK, HK0/a, HL, HP, HR, HS, HZ, I, IS, J3, J6, J7, J8, JA, JD/m, JD/o, JT, JW, JY, K, KG4, KH0, KH2, KH6, KL, KP2, KP4, LA, LU, LX, LY, LZ, OA, OD, OE, OH, OH0, OK, OM, ON, OX, OY, OZ, P2, P4, PA, PJ2, PJ4, PJ7, PY, PZ, S0, S2, S5, S7, SM, SP, ST, SU, SV, SV5, SV9, T2, T7, TA, TF, TG, TI, TJ, TK, TR, TT, TY, TZ, UA, UA2, UA9, UK, UN, UR, V2, V3, V4, V5, V7, V8, VE, VK, VK9N, VP2E, VP5, VP8, VP8/h, VP9, VR, VU, XE, XW, YA, YB, YI, YL, YN, YO, YS, YU, YV, Z2, Z3, ZA, ZB, ZD7, ZF, ZL, ZP, ZS

**\* PLEASE NOTE:** The report "could" contain "Pirate/SLIM" operations or more likely a "BUSTED CALLSIGN". As always, you never know - "Work First Worry Later".

9G, GHANA. Members of "Six G Team" will be active as 9G5X from Ghana between March 7-21st, 2017. Activity will be on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. Operators mentioned are Bob/5B4AGN, Alan/G3XAQ, Steve/G3VMW, Fred/G4BWP, Neil/G6MC and Iain/M0PCB. QSL via M0OXO, ClubLog's OQRS or

LoTW.

CN, MOROCCO. Russell, G5XW, is once again active as CN2XW from Essaouira until December 27th. This is another backpacking type holiday, but he plans to be active using only 100 watts into some sort of wire vertical/dipole. Operations will be CW only on 40/30/20/17 meters. QSL via G5XW.

CQWW PLAQUE ADDED. Dave, G8FXM, informs OPDX that the passing of Steve, GW4BLE/SK, on December 2nd, "His favorite contest was the annual CQWW SSB Contest where he excelled for over 40 years. Worldwide there can't have been an SSB contester who didn't recognize his call. To this end CQWW has agreed that a plaque in memory of Steve will be awarded to the leading EU SSB Classic section every year. This will be managed by the World Wide Radio Operators Foundation. This award is now in place and will be available from this year onwards. It is worth noting that only one other UK Amateur so far has an award in memory of their name and that's the legendary Al Slater, G3FXB."

D4, CAPE VERDE. Vlad, UA4WHX, continues his African tour and is now active as D44TVB from Santiago Island (AF-005) in the Cape Verde Island group. Activity has been on 40/30/20/17 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. As always, the length of his stay is not known. QSL via his home callsign.

E5, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS. Milan, OK1DWC, is active once again as E51DWC from the Rarotonga Islands (OC-013, WAZ-32) and will be there at least until sometime early 2017. Milan is active every day on 160-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via his home callsign. Confirmation is not a problem across all OQRS's and the information can be found on:

<http://QRZ.com/lookup/E51DWC>

<http://QRZ.COM/lookup/OK1DWC>

<http://www.hamqth.com/E51DWC>

HC8, GALAPAGOS ISLANDS. Geoff, G80FQ, will once again be active as HC8/G80FQ from Isabela Island (SA-004) between August 1st and October 31st, 2017. Activity will be on 160-6 meters using SSB only. There is a possibility of some satellite activity on 2m and 70cm SSB. Geoff is there working as a volunteer for the Galapagos National Park at the Giant Tortoise Breeding Center (see pictures on QRZ.com) on Isabela Island. QSL via G80FQ: Geoff Dobson, 9 Fitzpain Road, Ferndown, Dorset, BH22 8RZ, United Kingdom. Also LoTW on request.

HP, PANAMA. Operators Mike/W1USN and Bob/AA1M will be active as HP/W1USN and HP/AA1M, respectively, from Panama between February 10-22nd, 2017. Activity will be on various HF bands using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL HP/W1USN via W1USN direct or LoTW. QSL HP/AA1M via AA1M direct or LoTW.

#### IOTA NEWS.....

AS-046. Victor, R6AF, is now active as 9M2/R6AF/P from Batu Batu Resort on Pulau Babi Tengah Island. The length of his stay is not known. As this was being written, activity has been on 20/17 meters CW. QSL via his home callsign or ClubLog's OQRS.

AS-069. Operators Vasily/R7AL, Vasil/RA1ZZ, Serge/RW5D and Vladimir/RK8A will be active as RI0C from Iony Island sometime in July 2017 (tentative dates July 20-24th). Activity will be on 40-10 meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via R7AL or ClubLog. For more information, see: <http://www.iony2017.com/eng>

NA-092. Erik, N5WR, will be active as N5WR/5 from Mustang Island between December 26th and January 1st, 2017. Activity will be on various bands. QSL via his home callsign direct or ClubLog's OQRS.

OC-198. (Early Announcement/Update) Craig, VK5CE, will be active as

VK5CE/8 from North Island, Sir Edward Pellew Islands, between November 12-16th, 2017. Activity will be on various HF bands (40-15m, possibly 10m) and modes (QSL via his home callsign or ClubLog's OQRS. For more details and updates, see: <https://oc198.wordpress.com>

OC-267. Andrey, VK5MAV, will be active as VK9MAV from Marion Reef, Coral Sea Islands, Territory North, between May-June 2017. Activity will be mainly 20/15 meters using an Icom IC-7200 transceiver, VDA and dipole antennas. QSL via ClubLog's OQRS or via RN3RQ for Bureau QSLs (It will take 5-6 months).

JW, SVALBARD. Erik, LA2US, will once again be active as JW2US from Hopen Island (IOTA EU-063) for the next 6 months. He will operate on HF Bands mostly CW. QSL via OQRS ClubLog, LOTW, eQSL.

JW, SVALBARD. Eric, LA2US, will once again be active from the Arctic. Look for him to sign JW2US from Hopen Island (EU-063) sometime during the first week in June, and he will stay for 6 months. Eric states, "I'll be active on CW on/around IOTA frequencies or at the lower band edges. As before, this is a spare time operation, and I'll be in the shack only as often as work and other tasks permit. I'm working odd hours so I'd rather not do any skeds. My log will be uploaded to ClubLog on a regular basis and if you don't find your QSO there, please drop me an E-mail. I might be guilty of a typing error. Log will also be uploaded to LoTW and eQSL. QSL card service will be open via OQRS ClubLog while I'm on Hopen Island. QSL cards will be printed and sent from GlobalQSL. Direct QSL card service via OQRS ClubLog will open when I return home in June 2017. Postal Mail service to EU-063/Hopen Island is poor, every other month - at best. Do not send your QSL card to Hopen."

KP4, PUERTO RICO (Special Event). Look for special station KP4AW between December 26th and January 29th, 2017. Activity is in celebration of the ARRL Puerto Rico Section Convention (January 27-29th). Operations will be on 160-10 meters (depending on the propagation) and various modes. QSL via NP3IR, LoTW or eQSL.

OV90/OX90/OZ90/5P90, GREENLAND. Members of the Experimenterende Danske Radioamatører (EDR) will be active as OZ90EDR, OX90EDR and 5P90EDR from Greenland (NA-018) throughout the year 2017. The special event callsigns are to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Danish Amateur Radio organization. Even though activity will take place throughout 2017, the main activity will be during February 15th-May 15th 2017, and August 15th-November 15th, 2017. Operations will be on all bands including the 30/17/12 meter bands and on all modes. On JT modes the callsign OZ7D will be used. ONLY QSOs with OZ7D in JT modes are valid for the EDR award. Sometime during the year you may work the special "joker" call OV90EDR. This is also valid for the EDR award. QSL Manager is OZ1ACB. All QSOs will be verified via LoTW and eQSL. NO BUREAU QSLs. For more details, see: <http://oz90edr.oz5bir.dk>

P4, ARUBA. John, W2GD, will once again be active as P40W from Aruba (SA-036) during the ARRL International DX CW Contest (February 18-19th) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. He will be there between February 12-20th, 2017. Operations outside of the contest are usually on 160/80m and 30/17/12 meters as time permits. Watch 160m on the hour and 80m on the half hour. QSL via LoTW or direct to N2MM, Bureau cards are no longer accepted (since 1/1/2014). Logs will be loaded on LoTW upon his return to the USA.

PROPAGATION FORECAST/REPORT (December 26th-January 1st ).....

Dec/26th AN	Dec/29th AN	Dec/31st AN
Dec/27th AN	Dec/30th AN	Jan/01st AN
Dec/28th AN		

# SOLAR REFERENCE KEYS/INDEXES AND GEOMAGNETIC REFERENCE

NORMALITY	GEOMAG	K Values	Alpha
AN - Above Normal	Quiet	K=0-1	0-7
HN - High Normal	Unsettled	K=2	8-15
LN - Low Normal	Active	K=3	16-29
BN - Below Normal	Minor Storm	K=4	30-49
DIS - Disturbed	Major Storm	K=5	50-99
VRy DIS - Very Disturbed	Severe Storm	K=6-9	100-400

## REALTIME BAND CONDITIONS WEB SITE :

The purpose of this experimental Web site is to provide 24-7-365 actual (REALTIME) band condition information to CW QRPp, QRPe and CW/SSB for Contesters interested in increasing their scores. It can also be of benefit to other Radio Amateurs to determine band conditions for Nets and casual QSO's. This information is NOT based on any software predictions or any kind of satellite based readings. It is based on a new Ionospheric sounding method called "HF Ionospheric Interferometry" which operates very similarly to the PolSAR system used by NASA.

Also, check out the VOACAP predication Web page at:  
<http://www.voacap.com/prediction.html>

PY0F, FERNANDO DE NORONHA. Erwin, PY2QI, will be active as PY2QI/PY0F from Fernando de Noronha Island (SA-003) between February 15-21st, 2017. Activity will be on 40-10 meters including the 30/17/12m bands using CW only. QSL via his home callsign direct.

## QSL INFO AND NEWS.....

QSL-INFO from DB0SDX by Lothar, DL1SBF.. (December 25th)

3Z70AR via SQ8ERS	EA9KB via EA7FTR	HT7AAA via TI4SU (d)
4L5P via UT7QF	EG7SOM via EA7TV	K3C via KK40DQ
4X07W via 4Z5LA	EM9WFF via EA5HPX (d)	K8C via KK40DQ (d)
4X3XMAS via 4Z4DX (L/e)	EX2V via RW6HS (d)	OH2IPA via OH4MDY
4X7XMAS via 4Z4DX (L/e)	FM/F6AUS via F6AUS	RT17NY via RQ7L
6W/UA4WHX/P via UA4WHX	HB0/NZ1C via NZ1C (L/e)	RW17NY via RQ7L
D44TVB via UA4WHX	HB9/IW2NRI via IW2NRI (e)	VI50DC via M00X0
DM6A via DL1MIL (d/e)	HS70A via HS6MYW	VK9NM via VK1MA (L/e)
(e) eQSL only	(d) direct only	(B) Bureau only
(*) eQSL only	(C) ClubLog only	(L) LoTW only
		(*) No QSL Needed

4010A & 4090A QSL MANAGER CHANGE. Nenad, VE3EXY, reports "I was receiving 4010A and 4090A QSL card requests for quite sometime but was unable to respond with missing blank cards. To speed up the process, Acim, YU1YV, has accepted to handle those activations effective immediately. All cards requests I received so far will be forwarded to YU1YV, including your funds for direct response. Acim will update the 403A Web site to reflect this change." His address is: Acimovic Milos, Bul. Mihaila Pupina 19/9, 11070 NOVI BEOGRAD, SERBIA. Nenad also states, "I will continue to act as the 403A manager (bureau or direct) for as long as I have blank cards."

QSLs RECEIVED VIA LoTW: 4U1ITU, CU2A0, DM5TI, EA3FHP, EI1DQ, HB90DP, ON4KEB, OZ3IZ, RT0C, S58Q, SV2DGH, VA3MJR, XU7MDC, T02LEA, XZ1A and ZL4PW

QSLs RECEIVED VIA MAIL: CY9C, FO/K7AR, MD/DL1RTL, SV8/DJ4EL (EU-158), T30KJ, TL8A0, UE23RRC, V63YY, VP2ESM, VP6J, VK9NZ, XT2AW and ZL7/W1XGI

QSLs RECEIVED VIA THE BUREAU: 40/LB9N, 5J0R, 600LA, 6W/LA9DL, 9A3SM, A25DL, C21GC, DL2CC, E7/OK1WT, EA5/LA7VK, HK7AAG, IZ3ALK, JW2US, JW4PM, JW5X, JW6VDA, JW8DW, JW9HH, JX9JKA, LA1K, LA2IR, LA3RNA, LA4DM, LA60P, LA7GIA, LA8HGA, LA9LE, LA0BY, LB5WB, LG1GB, LI6CF, LM1814, LN4BBC,

LN7TTT, OH4MDY, PJ2/W9VA, PJ7/G3TXF, T2GC, TA3J/4, TA3J/7, TA3J/0 (AS-015), TC24KJ, TX3X, UN3GX, UN5GM, UN6G, UN6GAN, UN6GDX, UN6GT, UN6QBX, UN7BY, UN7FY, UN7GB, UN7GBY, UN7GDQ, UN7GDV, UN2GDX/7, UN7ID, UN7JZ, UN7GQ, UN7PCZ, UN7QCC, UN8PAS, UN9PQ, U01P, UP2BEW, UP44WFF, UQ1EPC, Z6/LA4MIA, ZA/LB9N and ZM90DX

S557, SLOVENIA (Special Event). Members of the Radio Club Cerkno (S50E) will be active with the special event callsign S557E throughout 2017. Activity is to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the club foundation since the year 1957. A special QSL will be sent to confirm each contact via the Bureau in early 2018. Log will be uploaded on the ARRL's LoTW on a regular basis. For those who want to send card direct please send SASE with 2 IRCs or 2 USDs to cover the return postage to QSL Manager Miran Voncina, S500, Cvetkova 35, 5282 Cerkno, Slovenia, with priority return when getting cards from the printer. Cards with insufficient postage or no return envelope will be returned via the QSL Bureau. Please visit for more information.

SOUTH PACIFIC 6M EME DXPEDITIONS. "The Daily DX" reports that Lance, W7GJ, will once again be active from the Pacific Ocean to focus on 6 meters EME QSOs. This time Lance is planning a 6 Meter EME DXpedition to Cocos Island as VK9CGJ, and Christmas Island as VK9XGJ. The details are yet to be worked out. At this point he's shooting for October 2017 with airline connections and the best 6M EME conditions being factors.

T8, PALAU. Yoshi, JK2VOC, will once again be active as T88FY between December 26-29th. Activity will be on various HF bands and modes. QSL via his home callsign.

TI, COSTA RICA. Nathan, N4YDU, will be active as TI5W from Alajuela during the ARRL International DX CW Contest (February 18-19th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry. QSL via N3YIM direct. Look for activity as TI5/N4YDU before and after the contest. QSL TI5/N4YDU via LoTW. QSL TI5W via W4FS and LoTW.

V3, BELIZE. Mike, W0MU, will be in Belize between February 14-28th for the ARRL International DX CW Contest (February 18-19th) with Jonathan, G0DVJ. Activity will be vacation style outside of the contest. He is still waiting on callsigns. They will be located in the Placencia area in southern Belize.

V6, MICRONESIA. Sho, JA7HMZ, will once again be active as V63DX from Pohnpei Island (OC-010) between February 17-24th, 2017. Activity will be on 160-6 meters, all modes and including the ARRL International DX CW Contest (February 18-19th) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry signing V6A. He will be looking for European stations on 160m before and after the contest. QSL via his home callsign. No Bureau QSLs.

ZC4, UK SOV. BASE AREAS ON CYPRUS. Dave, G4IAR, and his XYL Judith, G4IAQ, will be active as ZC4DB and ZC4JB, respectively, from UK Sovereign Bases on Cyprus (AS-004) during January 2017. Activity will be primarily holiday style on various HF bands. Activity will be from the Sovereign Base areas to which the public has access. When on other parts of the island, their callsigns will be 5B/G4IAR/P and 5B/G4IAQ/P. QSL via their home callsigns direct. ADDED REMINDER: Steve, G0GSB, will once again be active as ZC4SB from UK Sovereign Base Areas on Cyprus (AS-004) between January 11-25th, 2017. See OPDX.1293.

ZF9, CAYMAN ISLANDS. Stan, K5G0, will be active as ZF9CW from Cayman Brac Island (NA-016) between January 22nd and February 23rd, 2017. Activity will include the CQWW 160m CW (January 29-31st/Single-Op/High-Power) and the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 18-19th/Single-Op/Low-Power). QSL via his home callsign direct.

